

Cowboy Church Bow - Women's Bible Study

Week 2- Genesis Introduction

Genesis was written by Moses and is a historical book. He provides evidences of this history by detailing a chronological succession of events. He validates this story in time and space (2:10-14), tracing genealogies (5:1-32) and giving evidence of various sorts that validate the books history (citing time in 5:1, place in 11:9). Jesus confirms the historicity of this book by reference in Matthew 19:8, Luke 24:27, John 5:46-47. Peter said so in Acts 3:22 and various other passages refer to it writings.

The book of Genesis is a primary source for several basic doctrines (*a belief or set of beliefs held and taught by a Church, political party, or other group*) of the Bible. The book focuses on God in two areas: 1. He is the Creator of the universe, and 2. He is the one who initiates covenant with His people. God's covenant with Abraham is the basic plot of the Scripture: to accomplish His plan for the nations of the world through His people Israel, the descendants of Abraham. The climax of the text is in the words of worldwide importance: "And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Gen 12:3). This promise was realized in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Seed of Abraham, through whom peoples of all nations and families may enter into the joy of knowing the God of Abraham.

Chapters 1-11 lay the foundation upon which the whole Bible is built and center on four key events.

1. Creation: God is the sovereign Creator of matter energy, space, and time. Humankind is the pinnacle of the Creation.
2. Fall: Creation is followed by corruption. In the first sin humankind is separated from God (Adam from God), and in the second sin, human is separated from human (Cain from Abel). In spite of the devastating curse of the Fall, God promises hope of redemption through the seed of the woman (3:15).
3. Flood: As humankind multiplies, sin also multiplies until God is compelled to destroy humanity with the exception of Noah, and his family.
4. Nations: Genesis teaches the unity of the human race: we are all children of Adam through Noah, but because of rebellion at the Tower of Babel, God fragments the single culture and language of the post-Flood world and scatter people over the face of the earth.

Main Characters of Genesis

Abraham – the calling of Abraham, the three covenant promises (land, descendants, blessing), are the foundation of God's program of bringing salvation upon the earth.

Isaac – God establishes His covenant with Isaac as the spiritual link with Abraham.

Jacob – God transforms this man from selfishness to servanthood and changes his name to Israel, the father of the twelve tribes.

Joseph – Jacob's favorite son suffers at the hand of his brothers and becomes a slave in Egypt. After his rise to rulership of Egypt, he delivers his family from famine and brings them out of Canaan to Goshen.

Genesis ends with impending bondage and with the death of Joseph. There is great need for redemption that is to follow in the Book of Exodus.

Week 2 – Assignment

Read Genesis chapter 2 (5 times if at all possible) and answer the following questions:

1. **Explore the concept of “rest”**, (read Matthew 11:28-30; Exodus 20:8-11, 31:13; Isaiah 58:13-14; Hebrews 4:9-11; revelation 14:13, refer to any other related passages you know or find)

In Genesis 2:1-3 what did God rest from?

How do you enter God’s Rest, and is it something you do or earn?

What do you think God is trying to accomplish by having you rest?

2. **Besides “rest” what other themes do you see in the text of Genesis 2?**
3. **Why do you think God gave Adam the command in verse 17** (read also Deuteronomy 30:11-20; James 1:12-18)?
4. **Why do you think God formed the woman from Adam and said they become one flesh?** (read also Ephesians 5:21-33)

Genesis 2:1-24 (ESV)

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.

³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

⁴ These are the generations
of the heavens and the earth when they were created,
in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵ When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground,

⁶ and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—

⁷ then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

⁸ And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.

⁹ And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰ A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers.

¹¹ The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.

¹² And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.

¹³ The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush.

¹⁴ And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

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.”

¹⁸Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

¹⁹Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.

²⁰The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.

²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man."

²⁴Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed¹

¹ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Ge 2:1–25.

Genesis 1 - The Creation of the World

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years," ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹ So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

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.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was

so. **31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.**¹

¹ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Ge 1:1–31.