

Genesis – Overview & Summary

Reading: **Psalm 19:1-14**

Purpose:

1. Review the book of Genesis overall.
2. Highlight key events.
3. Identify some of the key doctrines of Christianity introduced to us in Genesis.
4. Identify Jesus as seen through the typologies represented in the life of Joseph.

Doctrine: (Webster's)

1. A particular principle, position, or policy taught or advocated, as of a religion.
2. A body or system of teachings relating to a particular subject: *the doctrine of a Church.*

Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

- Looking at “key events” this is “*the*” key event of all time.
- Time / beginning, space / heaven, and matter / earth are all spoken into existence simultaneously – created / “bara”, new from nothing by “Elohim”, God a uni-plural noun, our Tri-une God.

[Doctrine of: Biblical creation, or origins.](#)

- No other option, theory, or alternative explanation is offered, there is no attempt at a defense – this is simply a statement of fact and in a sense a “take it or leave it” assumption of truth.

[Doctrine of: Divine Inspiration.](#)

[Doctrines of inerrancy & veracity.](#)

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ¹⁶“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷That the man of god may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

- Along with the creation of time, space, and matter – we have the introduction of “God” Himself. Our all powerful creator and loving Father.
- Which is our introduction to: [Doctrine of: God.](#)
- The word “Elohim” is used to introduce God to us. “Elohim” is a uni-plural noun, meaning that God is One, yet more than One, a plurality which leads us to the Trinity: [Doctrine of the Trinity.](#)

This is reinforced:

Genesis 1:26 “And God / “Elohim” said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness:”

Later Jesus commands us:

Matthew 28:19 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

1 John 5:7 “There are three that bear record / witness in Heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”

Genesis 1:2 “And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the **Spirit of God** moved upon the face of the waters.”

- This introduces us to the: [Doctrine of the Holy Spirit](#).
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- These first verses reveal the: [Doctrine of Divine Revelation](#).

- Divine Revelation: That which is revealed by God to man about Himself.

1. Natural Revelation.
2. Specific Revelation.
3. Progressive Revelation.

1. **Natural Revelation:** As with the creation of all things, God reveals Himself through nature – creation itself.

- Genesis Chapter's 1 & 2 continue with the remainder of creation; of light, day & night, evening & morning – of the firmaments above & below, of dry land, the seas, the grass, herbs, fruit yielding trees, the Sun, the moon, and the stars – the fish of the sea, the animals on the land – of all the things that we call nature.

- *The incredible design that leads us to the Incredible Designer.*

Romans 1:19-20 “¹⁹Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. ²⁰For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”

2. **Specific Revelation:** God's Word, the Bible. Divine revelation is the communication or disclosure by God to man of truths which he could not otherwise know. The Bible is not primarily a record of man's thoughts about God, but a record of what God has done and revealed of Himself to man.

2 Peter 1:19-21 “¹⁹We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: ²⁰Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. ²¹For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

Our prayer then should be:

Psalms 119:18 “Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law.”

3. **Progressive Revelation:** To those who come to the Scriptures with an open mind and reliance upon the Holy Spirit for understanding there is that gradual unfolding of the plan and purpose of God, a progressive revelation.

Isaiah 28:10 “For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.”

- The Bible should therefore be read as a whole, comparing one part with another in order to gain a right perspective on God’s Word.

A guiding verse for me in terms of how to minister the word of God:

Acts 20:27-28 “²⁷For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. ²⁸Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood.”

1 Corinthians 2:12 “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.”

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- Key Event - God’s final act of creation: man made in His own image.

Genesis 1:26-27 “²⁶And 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. ²⁷So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.”

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- Genesis chapter 1 concludes with the 6th day of creation, everything is good.
 - Genesis chapter 2 fills in many of the creative details that are described in chapter one.
 - God dedicates almost 2 ½ pages of the Bible to creation!

Genesis 2:2 - brings us to the [Doctrine of Christ](#) the [Deity of Jesus](#), and the [Doctrine of the Sabbath](#):

Genesis 2:2-3 “²And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. ³And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from His work which God created and made.”

Jesus is also the creative power of the God head:

Colossians 1:16 “For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him:”

James 5:4b “... and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.” Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath.

Hebrews 4:7-10 “⁷Again, He limiteth a certain day, saying in David, today after so long a time; as it is said, today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. ⁸For if Jesus had given them rest, then would He not afterward have spoken of another day. ⁹There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. ¹⁰for he that is entered into His rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His.”

Institution of marriage.

Genesis 2:23-24 “²³And Adam said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man. ²⁴Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

[Doctrine of Marriage:](#)

- Genesis Ch. 3 introduces us to Satan in the form of a serpent, to temptation, and to sin itself.
- Satan’s first attack, man’s first temptation – and the test that we each face every day of our lives – always involves the word of God – will we be obedient, or will we be disobedient? – Which is truly how we express our faith or lack thereof.

Genesis 3:1-6 “¹Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, (*questioning the word of God*) Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? (*Misquoting the Word of God, making God’s Word sound unreasonable*) ²And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: ³But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. ⁴And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: (*contradicting the word of God*) ⁵For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. ⁶And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”

- This is the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life described in 1 John 2:15-15.
- Adam & Eve were created innocent, free from sin, but they were not righteous.

- Righteousness is the preservation of innocence in the presence of temptation.
- When Adam and Eve disobeyed God's Word, they died spiritually just as God said they would. As they died in the Spirit they each took on the sin nature which they then passed on to each of their descendants.
- Thereby introducing: [the Doctrine of Sin](#) & the [Depravity of Man](#).

Recognition of this sin nature causes Jeremiah to declare:

Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

Proverbs 28:18 "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered."

[Doctrine of Deliverance & Redemption:](#)

Speaking of our hope: 1st Messianic prophecy:

Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Also mentioned near the end of Genesis, as Jacob testifies:

Genesis 48:16 "The Angel which redeemed me from all evil..."

Genesis 3:15 referring to "her seed" also give us the [Doctrine of the virgin birth:](#)

Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

Just prior to being ushered out of the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 3:21 "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them."

- This was a "kofar" or a covering. The animals died to provide Adam and Eve with a temporary covering, clothes.
- A substitutionary death or atonement for sin.

This is later demonstrated with Abraham & Isaac:

Genesis 22:13 "And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son."

- Hence; the [Doctrine of Atonement & Substitutionary Death](#).

All of which had its ultimate fulfillment in our Lord Jesus Christ:

2 Corinthians 5:21 “For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”

- Chapter’s 4 & 5, we see men increasing upon the earth, we see the sin nature more clearly, leading up to the judgment of God in Chapter 6, the great flood.
- Just prior to God judging the earth however we have Enoch.

Genesis 5:22-24 ²²“And Enoch walked with God (meaning he had a relationship with God) after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: ²³And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: ²⁴And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.”

- The time of great tribulation and judgment is coming. The one with a personal relationship with God doesn’t die, but is taken by God prior to death, to be with Him.
- Others will go through the time of tribulation, (Noah & fam.) being preserved through it as opposed to from it.
- The remainder, the vast majority perish in God’s judgment.

2 Peter 2:7 “The Lord knows how to deliver the Godly out of temptations, and to preserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.”

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 ¹⁶“For the Lord Himself will descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain shall be **caught up** together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

- All of this of course points to the [Doctrines of the Rapture, and the End Times](#).
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- Genesis Ch. 6 describes the great flood, God’s judgment upon a wicked and sinful world; but it also introduces us to God’s grace.

Genesis 6:8 “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.” (1st mention)

Ephesians 2:8-9 ⁸“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹not of works, lest any man should boast.”

[The Doctrine of Grace](#).

Genesis 6:9 Introduces us to the [Doctrine of Justification](#):

Genesis 6:9 “These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.”

- 1st use of the word “just” in the Bible: (H662) “tsad-deek”: righteous, justified by God.
- Noah walked with God, he had that personal relationship with God, he found grace in God’s sight – and he was justified.

- Genesis Ch. 11 we have the tower of Babel and the separation of languages.

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- Genesis Chapter’s 12-25 we see the **Patriarch Abram** as he becomes Abraham.
 - By faith and in obedience Abram left the Ur of the Chaldees, believing God’s Word and promises.

Genesis 12:2-3 ²“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: ³And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”

- Abraham’s life teaches us about the [Doctrine of Sanctification](#), being set apart for God’s use.

Genesis 12:8 “And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Beth-el, and pitched his tent having Beth-el on the west, and Ha-i on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the Lord, and called upon the name of the Lord.”

[Doctrine of Prayer.](#)

[Doctrine of Faith:](#)

Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

- Genesis contains the oldest and most profound example / definition of faith:

Genesis 15:6 “And he ^(Abraham) believed in the Lord, and He ^(God) accounted it to him for righteousness.”

Romans 5:1 “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- When it comes to talking about faith, more than half of Hebrews chapter 11, the NT "hall of faith" refers to characters from Genesis.
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- Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness.
- **Genesis 17:3** describes Abraham worshipping God, and talking with God – describing a personal relationship with God.

Genesis 17:5 “Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.”

This is our introduction to the [Doctrine of Regeneration](#): (Being born again)

- By virtue of his faith in God, and in his personal relationship with Almighty God; Abram’s name is changed to “Abraham”.
- The “ha” is added, the “Ruach” – breath of God – the Spirit of God is added, and Abraham becomes a new man.

John 3:5-6 ⁵“Jesus answered, verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”

1 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

- Abraham’s testimony includes his encounter with Melchizedec, King of Salem – a Theophony of Christ; the destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah; the promise and birth of his son Isaac.
- Genesis Chapter 22 describes Abraham sacrificing his son, his only son Isaac.

Genesis 22:2-4 ²“And he said, take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. ³And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which god had told him. ⁴Then on the third day...”

Genesis 22:16 “And said, by Myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:”

- This beautiful picture; The father sacrificing his son, the son resurrected after three days.

This is the [Doctrine of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ](#):

- **Genesis Chapters 21-35 describe the life of Isaac.**
- The next big event after his sacrifice is his marriage.
- **Genesis Ch. 24** the father commissions Eliezer (Comforter) his chief steward to go and get a bride for his son. Only a bride from the household of faith will do.
- The servant, a type & shadow of the Holy Spirit testifies of the son, glorifies the son, and bestows precious gifts upon the bride, including “rainment” – new clothes – the garments of salvation.
- The bride receives the testimony of the servant and by faith follows him to the groom, where she is received – having prepared a place for her.
- This is a model of, and introduces us to the [Doctrine of the Church](#); the bride of Christ.

John 16:13-14 ¹³Howbeit when he, the spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. ¹⁴He shall glorify Me: for he shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

Ephesians 5:25; 32 ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;” - ³²This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”

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- **Genesis Chapters 25-49** describes the life of Jacob who became Israel, governed by God.
 - Jacob, named “supplanter”, “deceiver” – lived up to his name, struggling with the flesh even from the womb.
 - Through Jacob a nation is birthed, we see a man who struggled with God and prevailed, through surrender. That is when his name was changed, and he never walked the same again.
 - At the end of his life he testified about “**The Angel which redeemed me from all evil...**” **Genesis 48:16** [The Doctrine of Assurance](#).

John 15:5 “I am the Vine, ye are the branches, he that abides in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, but apart from Me ye can do nothing.”

- Our true assurance is in abiding in Him, just as Israel did.
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Genesis Chapters 37-50 describe the life of Joseph, who is so often a type of Jesus.

1. Like Jesus, Joseph spoke the truth – even when no one wanted to hear it.
2. Like Jesus, Joseph's heart was to please his father.
3. Like Jesus, Joseph is sent to his brethren wherein he is hated and rejected.
4. Like Jesus, Joseph is sold for the price of a slave.
5. Like Jesus, Joseph is dead to his father, having descended to the pit and to the prison.
6. Like Jesus, Joseph is found to be alive, resurrected from the dead, ascended to power.
7. Like Jesus, Joseph is worshipped by his brethren.
8. Like Jesus, Joseph is merciful to his brethren.
9. Like Jesus, Joseph is the good shepherd, providing them with bread and a place to live, protection.
10. Like Jesus, Joseph wept because of their lack of faith.
11. Like Jesus, Joseph is salvation to his brethren.
12. Like Jesus, it is through Joseph that his brethren learn about forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace.

Psalm 40:7-8 ⁷Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of Me, ⁸I delight to do Thy will, O my God; yea, Thy law is within My heart.”

- Of all the doctrines communicated / demonstrated in the book of Genesis, none is more important than the one doctrine that encompasses all the others – The Doctrine of Love.

1 John 4:10 “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”