

# GENESIS

## A STUDY OF BEGINNINGS

**“FOR THESE ARE NOT EMPTY WORDS,  
THEY ARE YOUR LIFE!”**

**DEUTERONOMY 32:47**

***By Candy Doak Seale***

*Seale Publications*

*WINCHESTER, TEXAS*

*The Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version.  
However the author has modernized archaic personal pronouns and  
has changed the verbs accordingly.*

*Visit the author's website: [letgodspeakbiblestudies.com](http://letgodspeakbiblestudies.com)*

*ISBN: 978-1-943310-03-6*

*Text copyright © 2015 Candy Doak Seale*

*All Rights Reserved*

### *TABLE OF CONTENTS*

#### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS:**

##### **1. LESSON ONE-INTRODUCTION**

**Two distinct sections can be seen in this book.**

GENESIS 1-11.

GENESIS 12-50.

##### **2. LESSON TWO-THE BEGINNING GENESIS 1-2:7**

**The Creation Process**

**After their Kind**

**The Seventh Day**

##### **3. LESSON THREE-PARADISE IS LOST**

**GENESIS 2:8-3:24**

**Paradise**

**The Unwelcome Visitor**

**The Promise**

##### **4. LESSON FOUR-SIN PROGRESSES**

**FAST!-GENESIS 4-5**

**Two Sons**

**The Fruit of Sin Begins**

**Cain**

**Seth**

**The Generations from Adam to Jacob**

**5. LESSON FIVE-STARTING AGAIN-GENESIS 6-7**

**Two Very Different Families**

**The Sons of God and the Daughters of Men**

**Wickedness Abounds But God always Provides**

**There Comes a Time When the Time is Up**

**6. LESSON SIX-TRUSTING IS**

**WAITING-GENESIS 8-9:17**

**In the Boat**

**Trusting and Waiting**

**Worship**

**The “Bow”**

**Men of Faith**

**7. LESSON SEVEN-THE**

**NATIONS-GENESIS 9:18-10:32**

**Here we go again**

**Too Much Drink**

**Canaan**

**Seeking a name**

**The Nations**

**BE WATCHING FOR FUTURE PUBLICATIONS:**

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS:**

Studies in Genesis - Beginnings

Let God Speak: Beginnings

Let God Speak: Beginnings-Preschool

Let God Speak: Patriarchs

Let God Speak: Timeline

**1. LESSON ONE-INTRODUCTION**

## INTRODUCTION

The book of Genesis is the book of beginnings. Genesis is a Greek word that means “origins”. This book tells us about the beginnings of most everything - except God. He has no beginning and he has no end! Some of the beginnings described in this book are:

- The beginning of the world
- The beginning of man
- The beginning of marriage and family
- The beginning of the Sabbath
- The beginning of sin and the promise of redemption
- The beginning of labor
- The first murder
- The beginning of the different languages
- The beginning of the nations
- The beginning of the Hebrew nation

This book, Genesis, is the first of five books which are referred to as “the Law”. Who did Jesus say wrote “the Law” in John 7:19?

++

There are many Scriptures throughout the Old Testament and New Testament that refer to Moses as being the author of the Law. These are a few:

- Judges 3:4;
- 1 Kings 2:3;
- 2 Kings 14:6;
- Ezra 6:18;
- Nehemiah 8:1;
- Matthew 8:4;
- Luke 24:27;
- John 1:17;

Acts 6:14;  
1 Corinthians 9:9;  
2 Corinthians 3:15.

The difficulty is that Genesis ends some 300 years before Moses is born. But then again, we also know that no one was there during the creation week (Genesis 1, 2) and yet that had to be faithfully recorded by someone.

Genesis 3:8 infers that Adam and Eve walked and talked with God in the garden. What kinds of things do you imagine they would have talked about?

++

Very possibly God's creation and the many things that happened that first week were discussed.

Look at Genesis 5, Genesis 11:10-26 and Exodus 6:16-20. What do these scriptures record?

++

The generations from Adam to Moses are listed. These scriptures reveal to us how long each of these persons lived. Due to the longevity of life in those days, many generations would be living at the same time; therefore many of Adam's descendants would have known Adam personally, who knew God personally!

But ultimately, from whom did Moses receive his information? 2 Peter 1:21

++

The bottom line is that however Moses received his information, humanly speaking; he was divinely inspired by God to know the information and record it accurately for all generations. Knowing that many other of the Bible's authors and Jesus himself refer to Moses as the author, we can rest assured that these first five books were "humanly"

authored by Moses.

TWO DISTINCT SECTIONS CAN BE SEEN IN THIS BOOK.

**GENESIS 1-11.** This section records the history of the human race. It focuses on **four** main events: **creation, the fall, the flood and the tower of Babel.** The time frame covers a minimum of 2000 years. From Genesis 12 all the way through the rest of the Bible is only another 2000 years. So in a way, the first eleven chapters of Genesis are halfway through the Bible!

While reading through these 11 chapters, note how many times it says, “These are the generations...” Genesis gives us families. This is the beginning of us all. This is our roots. We came to this earth through families.

**GENESIS 12-50.** This section records the history of the Hebrew race. It focuses on **four** people, one family: **Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph.** These four men are often referred to as “the Patriarchs”. The time frame of these chapters covers around 350 years. This period of the patriarchs lays the foundation for all of Biblical history.

God calls out a single man and makes a covenant with him.

**Genesis 12:1-3. Read it.** Become thoroughly familiar with it. This covenant is a huge key to understanding the whole Old Testament. God promised Abraham that his descendants should be: (Genesis 12:1-3)

1. ++

2. ++

3. ++

4. ++

Through this man, Abraham, God purposes to show the whole world of Himself and to bless all people through him. This covenant is repeated to only two other people. Who are

they?

To whom? (Genesis 26:1-5)

++

To whom? (Genesis 28:13-15)

++

These three men are the covenant fathers. That is why it says in Scripture, "I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." (Acts 7:32) No one else is ever added. God gave the covenant to these three men.

The second part of Genesis focuses on this family and this book ends with this family of 70 members as they all are moving to Egypt to live. But just as soon as we turn to the next page in the Bible, to the next book, many years will have passed and we will no longer just see a family. We will see a nation; a nation that God has built and has great plans for. He will have many things to teach them and through them many things to teach us. And ultimately, the greatest gift to the entire world is to come through this family.

## 2. LESSON TWO - THE BEGINNING

### GENESIS 1-2:7

Why are we here? Where did we come from? What is the meaning of all this? These are valid questions that everyone has asked at one time or another. What are the first four words of the book of Genesis?

++

This is how, not only Genesis, but the whole Bible begins. It lays the foundation for it all. There is a beginning and it is God. The God of the Bible has spoken. He is here and He is not silent. God not only created it all, He also chooses to

reveal Himself to His creation.

Paul tells us in Romans 1:17 that we must live by what?

++

The writer of Hebrews (11:3) tells us that through faith we can understand what?

++

We cannot totally understand or explain the creation of God; neither can those who believe that everything got here by some sort of big bang. Everyone takes what they believe by faith. Yet even though we cannot understand it, the Bible declares compelling proof that there is a God. What can be learned from these verses?

Romans 1:17-20

++

Psalm 19:1-4

++

All one needs to do is look around. All creation speaks, saying, "There is a God! There is a God! There is a God..."

***Read Genesis 1-2:7.*** (Pray before you start. Let this not just be an intellectual assignment. Only through God's Spirit can we even begin to understand God and his Word that He chooses to reveal to us. Pray with the Psalmist, "Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from your law." Psalm 119:18.)

Take note of the words "created" / "he said, 'let there be" / "good" / "after their kind".

THE CREATION PROCESS

Which verses use the word "created"?

++

Which verses say, "Let there be"?

++

Moses chooses to use two distinct words to describe God's creation process. "God created" is used three times in chapter 1. The rest of the verses say, "Let there be..." The Hebrew word for "created" is "bara". It often means to make something out of nothing. It definitely means to make something new and perfect and fresh, a masterpiece, something wonderful. Whereas, the Hebrew "asah" is more ordinary; it simply means to do or make. "Asah" is also using materials that have already been created.

What three verses use "God created" and what is described as being created?

1. ††

2. ††

3. ††

What reason can you see for the distinction in the use of the two different verbs?

††

At the end of this creation narrative in Genesis 2:3, the Hebrew text uses both words to sum it up. If you are reading from a literal translation, you will see, "He had rested from all his work, which God **created** ('bara') and **made** ('asah')." When speaking of man, did God "create" or "make" man? (Genesis 1:27, 2:7)

††

Both words are used. We see that man is a very important and wonderful part of God's creation; yet we also see that man was not made out of nothing but from the dust of the ground!

In verse 2, how is the earth described?

††

The remaining of this first chapter describes how God

forms that which was without form and fills that which was void. And Isaiah tells us why he formed it so. (Isaiah 45:18)

++

Isaiah tells us that God created it not “in vain”. The word that is used in the Hebrew text is “**tohuw**”. “Tohuw” means “in vain”, “chaos” and “empty nothingness”. **Tohuw**” can describe Saturn or Jupiter or other places in the universe but our world is not to be that way. God formed it to be inhabited.

The whole of creation is described as the heavens and the earth. It is described in two parts; all of the heavens (the whole universe) and then the earth. The earth is one little planet revolving around one little star that has one little moon revolving around it. They exist in one little galaxy in the heavens. Yet, this earth and sun and moon are singled out in the creation story because God created it all for the climax of his creation - to be inhabited by man.

#### AFTER THEIR KIND

How many times does this text mention “after their kind”?

++

Why do you think “after their kind” is so important to mention after every time that some living thing that can reproduce is made?

++

Every living thing is made “after its kind”. Nothing is made that is intended to change someday into something else. From the beginning, God put the exact information in each distinct living thing to “program” it to reproduce in like manner. There will be no surprises. Science really depends upon the fact that the world is very orderly and predictable and not full of randomness and chaos. For example, when a

peach seed is planted, we know what will come up. When two horses are bred, we can know what animal will come from the mother's womb.

Let's take another look at each day of the creation week. Every day brings new things and everyday God sees that it is good. How many times is it noted that "God saw that it was good."?

++

The last verse of chapter one sums up the whole of the creation week. How is it described?

++

Is there anything evil created by God in this whole universe?

++

People often try to explain why there is evil in the world. But a more difficult question is "where did the good come from?" For those who believe that man's ancestors came from the animal kingdom, where did the ability to love, the appreciation for truth and beauty, the sense of responsibility for others, the willingness to sacrifice for others come from? The only sufficient answer to this is found in the Scriptures. What does Genesis 1:26-27 tell us? (Also see Genesis 9:6, and James 3:9)

++

Man is special. He was created special. And he remains just as special today. In fact all the elements of good that are found in mankind can only have their source in being made in the likeness and image of God.

## THE SEVENTH DAY

After six days of creating, what happens next?

(Genesis 2:1, 2)

++

Creation is finished. God ends his work. The Hebrew word is “**kalah**”. It means, finished, ended, completed, and accomplished. God rests, not because he is tired but because he is through. Does this mean that God is no longer active; or that for a day, God is no longer working?

John 5:17:

++

Colossians 1:17:

++

Hebrews 1:3:

++

Psalms 121:3:

++

Creation is over. Nothing new is being created. God is still resting in his creative activity; but only in his creative activity is there nothing more to do.

In our world, nothing can continue to exist unless God is actively sustaining it and holding it together. He is greatly involved in the lives of his creation. He knows of every little bird and every little flower. He will not even allow one's foot to slip without him knowing. We will see through this study of his word, God is alive and active and He is not silent!