

GENESIS

Name

Genesis – the first word in the Hebrew Bible is *reshith* or _____. As the first book in our Bibles, Genesis is the book of beginnings.

Author

_____ – Moses has been counted as the traditional author of the first five books of the Bible throughout the history of God's people. There has been a movement by modern scholars of the last 200 years to deny the Mosaic authorship of Pentateuch (title for the first five books of the Bible) based on higher critical methods. No manuscript has ever been discovered to support any evidence for multiple later authors of the Pentateuch.

Dates

The dating of the writing of Genesis is dependent on the dating of the Exodus for those who hold to a traditional view of Mosaic authorship. Based on the genealogies and dating in the OT, the Exodus occurred in 1446BC. Therefore, Genesis was written at some point between 1446-1406BC at the death of Moses at the conclusion of the wilderness wanderings.

Theme

The themes of Genesis are twofold. The first, based upon the title, is beginnings. Genesis tells us of the beginnings of our _____, our race, our sin, _____, human government, our _____, and the people of God. The second theme is the faithfulness of God through the generations. The observant reader of the Hebrew text will see the book divided into ten sections through the phrase *elleh toledoth* or these are the generations in English. The God who created the world in the beginning was _____ through generation after to generation to His own glory and those made in His image.

Genre

Genesis is a book of _____ and _____. Genesis is a historical account of the family line that can be traced from Adam to Israel and his twelve sons. Genesis presents us with the genealogical records of the first 2,000+ years of life on this earth.

Structure

Genesis can be divided in two ways. The first is based on the 10 *elleh toledoth* (these are the generations) statements found throughout the book of Genesis. This appears to be the divisions intended by Moses in the writing of the book:

- I. The Introductory Creation Account 1:1-2:4
- II. The Generations of the Heavens and Earth 2:4-4:26

The Pentateuch

- III. The Generations of Adam 5:1-6:8
- IV. The Generations of Noah 6:9-9:29
- V. The Generations of the sons of Noah 10:1-11:9
- VI. The Generations of Shem 11:10-11:26
- VII. The Generations of Terah 11:27-25:11
- VIII. The Generations of Ishmael 25:12-25:18
- IX. The Generations of Isaac 25:19-35:29
- X. The Generations of Esau 36:1-37:1
- XI. The Generations of Jacob 37:2-50:26

We may also divide the book based on the major **narrative units**. This division may be helpful to remember the main characters, story, and teachings in Genesis.

- I. The Story of Creation
- II. The Sons of Adam
- III. The Life of Noah
- IV. The Fall of Babel
- V. The Life of Abraham
- VI. The Life of Isaac
- VII. The Life of Jacob
- VIII. The Life of Joseph

Main Characters

- _____ - the Creator and Sustainer of this world and His called out people
- _____ - the first humans who were made in God's image but fell to temptation
- _____ - found grace in the eyes of God during the judgment of the flood
- _____ - the one called by God to be a blessing to all the families on earth
- _____ - Abraham's wife who bore their first son in her old age
- _____ - the second patriarch of the people of God who struggled in his parenting and place in this world
- _____ - the third patriarch who was born a deceiver and died a prince
- _____ - the son of Israel who was used by God to save His people from famine

Audience

The book of Genesis, along with the rest of Pentateuch, was written for the instruction, edification, and admonition of the children of Israel as they settled in the _____ and came together as the Chosen People of God. This book should be seen as the foundation of how to understand and live in this world. God chose to deliver a narrative along with a Law in Exodus-Deuteronomy. God wants us to both know His will and to understand the consequences of following or opposing Him.

EXODUS

Name

Exodus – The English title for the Exodus comes from the Septuagint (the ancient Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible). Exodus means “ _____ ”
_____” The original Hebrew title is *Elleh Shemoth* – these are the names.

Author

Moses – Moses has been counted as the traditional author of the first five books of the Bible for the history of God’s people. There has been a movement by modern scholars of the last 200 years to deny the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch based on higher critical methods. No manuscript has ever been discovered to support any evidence for multiple later authors of Pentateuch.

Dates

The dating of the writing of Exodus is dependent on the dating of the Exodus for those who hold to a traditional view of Mosaic authorship. Based on the genealogies and dating in the OT, the Exodus occurred in 1446BC. Therefore, Exodus was written at some point between 1446-1406 at the death of Moses at the conclusion of the wilderness wanderings.

Theme

The theme of Exodus is _____. God’s people were helpless as slaves trapped in Egypt. God graciously and miraculously provided for their redemption through His mighty hand. The heart of the Exodus is the Passover in chapter 12 along with the sealing of the Old Covenant with blood in chapter 24. God has paid the cost to deliver His people out of slavery, and He made them His own.

Genre

Exodus is a book of _____. The book of Exodus shows the establishment of the nation of Israel as a theocracy (a nation ruled in the name of the LORD). The narrative reveals how God worked to transform Israel from a group of slaves into a free nation. The Law reveals how the people will now live as one nation and relate to their God.

Structure

There are many ways to divide the story of the Exodus depending on the reader’s view of the main emphases of the book. I will divide it into three sections based upon the theme of redemption. God saved Israel not due to inherent worth of the Israelites. He _____ them, so they could enter into _____ with Him.

The Pentateuch

- I. Israel in Bondage
 - a. Life under bondage (1:1-2:25)
 - b. The Call of God's Deliverer (3:1-4:31)
 - c. The Battle for Redemption (5:1-11:10)
 - d. The Passover (12:1-13:22)
 - e. The Escape from Egypt (14:1-15:21)
- II. The Creation of a New People
 - a. The Journey in to Sinai (15:22-18:27)
 - b. The Preparation for the Covenant (19:1-25)
 - c. The First Covenant (20:1-24:18)
- III. Life as a New People
 - a. Worship to the Covenant God (25:1-31:18)
 - b. Failure in the Covenant (32:1-35)
 - c. Covenant Renewal (33:1-34:35)
 - d. Following the Covenant (35:1-40:38)

Main Characters

- _____ - the Redeemer of His people, the true God in comparison to the false gods
- _____ - God's chosen prophet to redeem His people
- _____ - the first high priest of Israel and brother to Moses
- _____ - a leader of worship in Exodus 15 and sister to Moses
- _____ - enemy of God who hardened his heart against God's will

Audience

The book of Exodus, along with the rest of Pentateuch was written for the instruction, edification, and admonition of the children of Israel as they settle in the Promised Land and come together as the Chosen People of God. This book should be seen as the Law to _____ God's people through life in this _____ world. God chose to not only give them a Law to guide their lives, but He also told how far He went to redeem His own. God wants us to both know His will and to understand His choice to call us out as His own.

The Glory of Yahweh

Don't miss _____ on the person of God as revealed in the book of Exodus. This was the time in history when the LORD chose to reveal Himself to His people as Yahweh – the self-existent One. There is a wealth of truth on the person of God, His character, power, and will in this foundational book.

LEVITICUS

Name

Leviticus – The English title for Leviticus comes from the Latin Vulgate. Leviticus is a Latin word which means “relating to the Levites.” The original Hebrew title is *Wayyiqra* – _____.

Author

Moses – Moses has been counted as the traditional author of the first five books of the Bible for the history of God’s people. There has been a movement by modern scholars of the last 200 years to deny the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch based on higher critical methods. No manuscript has ever been discovered to support any evidence for multiple later authors of Pentateuch.

Dates

The dating of the writing of Leviticus is dependent on the dating of the Exodus for those who hold to a traditional view of Mosaic authorship. Based on the genealogies and dating in the OT, the Exodus occurred in 1446BC. Therefore, Leviticus was written at some point between 1446-1406 at the death of Moses at the conclusion of the wilderness wanderings. Leviticus contains teachings of the Law and a brief narrative passage that took place during the final days around Mt. Sinai. This was the time when the Israelites were constructing the Tabernacle.

Theme

The theme of Leviticus is _____ and _____. Leviticus presents God’s people with detailed instructions on how to walk in cleanliness and remain free from the stain of sin and uncleanness. The book also presents us with a system of sacrifices to atone for sin and bring one back into a place of (spiritual) cleanliness and worship to God.

Genre

Leviticus is a book of _____. The book of Leviticus presents us with detailed instruction on the duties and appearance of priests. Laws relating to physical cleanliness and personal holiness. We are also told of the offerings and feasts to be offered to the LORD.

Structure

- I. Description of the Five Major Offerings (1:1-7:38)
 - A. Burnt Offering (1:1-17) and (6:8-13)
 - B. Grain Offering (2:1-16) and (6:14-23)
 - C. Fellowship Offering (3:1-17) and (7:11-38)
 - D. Sin Offering (4:1-5:13) and (6:24-30)
 - E. Guilt Offering (5:14-6:7) and (7:1-10)

- II. The Beginning of the Tabernacle Worship (8:1-10:20)
 - A. Consecration of Aaron and His Sons (8:1-36)
 - B. Divine Acceptance of the First Worship (9:1-24)
 - C. Nadab and Abihu's Profanation (10:1-7)
 - D. Explicit Instructions for the Priests (10:8-20)
- III. Laws of Cleanness (11:1-15:33)
 - A. Clean and Unclean Food (11:1-47)
 - B. Purification After Childbirth (12:1-8)
 - C. Regulations for Skin Diseases, Mildew, and Emissions (13:1-15:33)
- IV. The Day of Atonement (16:1-34)
- V. Laws of Personal Holiness (17:1-22:33)
- VI. The Feasts and Worship of the Lord (23:1-24:9)
 - A. Introduction (23:1-2)
 - B. The Sabbath (23:3)
 - C. The Passover and Firstfruits (23:4-14)
 - D. The Feast of Weeks (23:15-22)
 - E. The Feast of Trumpets (23:23-25)
 - F. The Day of Atonement (23:26-32)
 - G. The Feast of Tabernacles (23:33-44)
 - H. The Care of the Lampstand (24:1-4)
 - I. The Bread of the Presence (24:5-9)
- VII. Various Laws for Life in the Promised Land (24:1-27:34)

Main Characters

- _____ - the holy LORD who rules over Israel
- _____ - God's chosen prophet to redeem His people and give them God's Law
- _____ - the first high priest of Israel and brother to Moses

Audience

The book of Leviticus, along with the rest of Pentateuch was written for the instruction, edification, and admonition of the children of Israel as they settle in the Promised Land and come together as the Chosen People of God. This book should be seen as the detailed Law and sacrificial system to help the people come to understand _____ to their holy God.