

VIA EMMAUS:

A CHRIST-CENTERED WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE

The Beginning of It All: Genesis 1-11 (2)

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth...
And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good
Genesis 1:1, 31

Genesis in the Twenty-First Century

Genesis

- Author: **Moses**
- Audience: **First Generation of Israelites**
- Aim: (1) How did everything begin – God, world, mankind
 (2) Engender Faith (Romans 15:4)

Outline

- (1) Genesis 1-11 :: **Four Events**
- o Creation (1-2)
 - o The Fall & Its Effects (3-5)
 - o Flood & Noahic Covenant (6-9)
 - o Babel and Beyond (10-11)
- (2) Genesis 12-50 :: **Four Faces**
- o Abraham (12-24)
 - o Isaac (25)
 - o Jacob (26-36)
 - o Joseph (37-50)
- (3) Moses Outline :: **Ten Generations**

Genesis 1-11

1. The **Fact** of Creation (Gen 1)
2. The **Function** of Creation (Gen 2)
3. The **Fall** of Creation (Gen 3)
4. The **Faithfulness** of the Creator (Gen 3ff)

Three Themes in Each Section

1. God's **People**
2. God's **Rule**
3. God's **Place**

Primeval History (1:1–11:26)¹

Introduction	General heading	Specific heading	Section introduced
2:4	These are the generations of	the heavens and the earth	2:4–4:26
5:1	These are the generations of	Adam	5:1–6:8
6:9	These are the generations of	Noah	6:9–9:29
10:1	These are the generations of	the sons of Noah	10:1–11:9
11:10	These are the generations of	Shem	11:10–26

Patriarchal History (11:27–50:26)

11:27	These are the generations of	Terah	11:27–25:11
25:12	These are the generations of	Ishmael	25:12–18
25:19	These are the generations of	Isaac	25:19–35:29
36:1, 9	These are the generations of	Esau	36:1–37:1
37:2	These are the generations of	Jacob	37:2–50:26

¹ List taken from the ESV Study Bible, available at <http://www.esvstudybible.org/maps-charts>.

The Beginning of It All

- **God**: Creator of All Things
 - o Triune God (Gen 1:1-3; cf. 1 Cor 8:6)
 - o Ancient Near Eastern Context vs. Modern Controversies
 - Genesis argues against polytheism and ANE pagan religions
 - Genesis denies material evolution, but it is not written with Charles Darwin in mind
 - Genesis should be read for its worldview, not its scientific data (cf. 2 Tim 3:16-17)
 - o Failure to rightly understand Genesis 1-2 distorts reality
- **The World**: God's Creation
 - o God spoke the material world into existence (cf. Psalm 33:6; Hebrews 11:3)
 - o God organized the created world into his cosmic temple (cf. Psalm 104:1-9)
 - o In days 1-3, God **formed** the earth light/dark (1) heavens/earth (2) dry/sea (3)
 - o In days 4-6, God **filled** the earth lights (4) sea/sky (5) animals/man (6)
 - o Day 7... **Sabbath** =/= cessation, but perfect, restful, harmonious LIFE
- **Mankind**: The Image of God
 - o What does it mean to be made in the image of God? (Gen 1:26-31)
 - 1) **Substance** – mind, will, emotions all contribute to our 'god-likeness'
 - 2) **Personal Relationship** – humanity is unique from all other creatures
 - 3) **Dominion** – to rule over the earth as God's appointed vice-regents; picks up Ancient Near East language/concept
 - o What is the significance of being made male and female? (Gen 1:27; Gen 2:18-25)
 - 1) God's **purposes** cannot be accomplished without men and women.
 - 2) Men and women are **equal in value and worth**.
 - 2) Men and women have **different roles**.
 - 3) In the home and church, men are designed to function as **loving leaders**, women as **helpful followers** (cf. 1 Tim 2:11-15; Tit 2:1-9)

What's Wrong with the World

- Everything began good (1:31; 2:25)
- Satan deceives mankind (cf. John 8:44; 10:10; 2 Cor. 11:3; Rev. 12:7-17)
- Pattern of Sin and Death (cf. Luke 4:3-12; James 1:14; 1 John 2:15)

Genesis 3:1-6

- o **DECEPTION** (v. 1-3): Sin occurs because our eyes have been blinded.
- o **DENIAL** (v. 4-5): Sin denies truth and posits a tempting lie.
- o **DESIRE** (v. 6): Sin feeds on our desires – *lust of the flesh, eyes, pride of life*
- o **DESTRUCTION** (v. 7ff) Sin always leads to death.

The Promise and Pattern of Redemption

- The Promise of Redemption: **Genesis 3:15**
- The Pattern of Redemption:

<u>Creation</u>	<u>Rest and Temple Worship</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Salvation thru Judgment</u>	<u>New Creation thru God's Mediator</u>
Gen 1:26-31	Gen 2:4-25	Gen 3:1-7	Gen 3:14-19 (v. 15) Gen. 4:8-16 (Cain) Gen. 5 ('and he died')	Gen. 4:1 (Cain) Gen 4:4 (Seth) Gen. 4:28-29 (Noah = 'rest')
Gen 8:1-19 Gen 9:1-7	Gen. 8:20-22	9:18-24	9:25-29 (blessing/curse) 11:1-9 (scattered)	Gen 12:1-3 (people / place / blessing)