

School of the Bible Notes – Program #20

Genesis is the foundation of the Bible.

Adam & Eve's covering was leaves from a fig tree. Adam & Eve hid themselves.

Genesis 3:8-10 shows the heart of God. Most people don't understand God's love and what happens when we screw up.

The Lord connects with us in a physical way. Jesus took on our condition and walks with us – "Emmanuel."

God takes on different characteristics in the Old Testament. For example: transcendence and imminence. The Lord wants to be with us. He goes looking for us. He's a seeking God. We go into hiding. God gave us so much. There is a new level of love when we mess up. Don't reject God – come after him.

Grace – God initiated love – go after Him, Jesus comes looking for us.

Luke 19:10 Zaccheus looked for the Lord and Jesus looked for him. The whole Bible is the story of God looking for fallen man. He knows we're not perfect. Jesus is the perfect sacrifice.

Luke 19:1-2 If you're rich, you're not exempt from needing Jesus.

Luke 19:3-4 Zaccheus climbed a sycamore tree.

Luke 19:5 The Lord found Zaccheus. Wherever we find a need, we see Jesus.

Luke 19:5-7 God never gives up on us.

Luke 19:8 Zaccheus had a change of heart just by being with Jesus.

Luke 19:9, 10 In our world, we hide. Fears destroy our lives. Abundant life = new beginning.

Adam → Jesus – about 5,000 years. God never changes.

Gospel is good news to people who are hiding. We use trappings to protect us and to hide from others and the Lord. Other trappings are job titles. We try to cover with our own efforts. Afraid = fear. Fear is immobilizing.

I John 4:18 Perfect love casts out fear.

Pray for fear to be gone. The reason Adam was afraid was because of sin. We fear judgment for sin and we're afraid to die. The devil takes the fear of death and puts it over our head. The Lord is working through us to overcome all our fears. Our greatest joy is to know Jesus. We don't need to be afraid of him.

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God listens – he has a conversation and wants to have a real relationship with us. He asks a question, listens to the response, and asks another questions, then listens to that response. God always gets the full story. He is very patient with us.

Genesis 3:10, 11 We need to allow God to ask us questions. God draws us out.
Loving Father → child messed up → God will fix it.

Genesis 3:13-14 Tone is power behind it. Empathy, compassion, interested, and woundedness. Loving God – not out to punish us. “Come let’s reason together” means, “let’s talk it out.” Relaxed – timing is important. God was walking in the cool of the day. Wind blowing reminds us of the Holy Spirit leading Him. God knows us. He knows what we’re afraid of better than we do. He comes gently, wooing us, and drawing people out, and inviting them to be with Him.

Patience, perfect timing, and love are some of God’s characteristics.

Blame game: 1) man; 2) woman; and 3) serpent. All 3 of them were unwilling to accept responsibility for their actions. God was hoping man would accept responsibility. Adam blamed the Lord “the woman You gave me.” We will ultimately need to face the consequences of our actions.

Can’t ultimately accept the Savior – Romans 3:23

Reason: don’t know what to do with our sin

People destroyed spiritually – not accept responsibility

Accountable → mature and grow → Great Savior I have

We can’t fix our sin. Only God can fix it. Can’t let them get by – deception. We are a nation of victims. Guilty → forgiveness, Transform us → know Him better, own up to my sin

I’m not responsible for the actions of others. Healing, forgiving

Can’t spend out whole lives blaming other people. I’m guilty → forgiveness, net beginning → God will bless that step → take us to the next level in your walk with Him

Genesis 3:15 – first mention of gospel

Enmity = conflict

Seed of serpent vs. seed of woman. Seed of serpent = unbelievers. Seed of woman = God’s people. All life comes out of woman. Battles, wars, and pain are results of Genesis 3:15

Culminated in the cross of Jesus.

Interesting thing is only men have seed, not woman. Judgment of evil and sin and given in Genesis 3:15

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We are unpacking the riches of Genesis. What we're unpacking has always been there. It's nothing new. We often leap over diamonds to find a penny when we interpret Scripture. There are real treasures of Jesus in the book of Genesis. The first mention of the gospel is in Genesis 3:15. The rest of the Bible shows the fulfillment of that gospel.

God teaches us about the awareness of sin. There is a conflict between the devil and his offspring and the woman and her offspring.

Jesus crushed the serpent's head on the cross. Jesus defeated Satan and sin itself on the cross.

Colossians 2:14, 15

Show = public knowledge of. Jesus' crucifixion was a public display. Everything God says will come to pass.

Did the gospel begin in the New Testament? No! It began in Genesis 3:15. The law was not introduced yet. The law exposes sin.

Man blamed the woman. We need to acknowledge the problem of sin and find God's solution.

Satan bruises the woman's heel. Satan causes trouble. When you bruise your heel, it affects your walk. Satan tries to hinder our walk with God in every way. Satan will try to bruise you and keep you from walking with God. We have to go through some suffering in this world.

King Herod, Judas, us

Satan's plan:

1. discredit God and His plan
2. destroy our walk with God

The devil will always use our sins against us. He's been crushed already! Satan is a defeated foe. Romans 8:1 tells us that there is no condemnation to those in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 3:16

The serpent was judged. The woman's increased pain in childbirth does not mean that God doesn't care about women. The woman is a picture of God's people. We're all a part of this judgment. All God's people suffer and have troubles. The pain of labor does not last forever. When a baby is born, women forget the pain they had during the labor.

Romans 8:18

One moment in glory and we will forget the lifetime of suffering we had on earth. Woman means queen, royalty, by man's side. Don't look down on women. Woman was taken out of the side of her husband.

God deals with men and women differently. Men were built for heavy labor. Out of the woman, Jesus was born. Adam's work was fulfilled in the hard work of the Last Adam (Jesus) on the cross. God loves men and women the same. We need to teach about God's love and be witnesses of Him.

Bishop Rogers and Pastor Carlson's favorite verse this part of the Bible is Genesis 3:21.

2 ways to dress:

1. dress self
2. let God dress us

God shed blood to cover Adam and Eve's sin and dressed them with the skin of an animal to picture atonement. Atonement requires shed blood.

What do you want - temporary protection or ultimate protection?

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Genesis 3

Mercy of God

The other 65 books of the Bible are commentaries on the book of Genesis. It is worth it to take time to build a solid foundation.

Genesis 3:21-24

Emergence of concept of atonement – covering for sin

Jewish Items: Day of Atonement, covering of head, and prayer shawls

The Lord killed the animal. Adam & Eve didn't ask for it. God initiated the covering. Adam & Eve didn't understand what to ask for. Atonement – one with God

Spiritual needs – we don't know what we need, but God does. Only God can provide. God's work → God's people → God's way

God covers His people with Himself. The Lord prevents us from touching the Tree of Life.

Guardians: The Lord is concerned that man will eat of the Tree of Life and live forever. God expresses mercy. He has a better plan – cross

Cherubim

Move people to the east – Abraham moves east. Abraham and his children go back to Paradise

Exodus 25:17-21 Mercy Seat

We need justice. Man can't make the right choice.

Cherubim – sword – God's judgment

How do you get back to Paradise? There is a way. The good news of the Bible – get us back to Paradise and how the Lord does that.

Justice – Genesis 3

Exodus 25 – Mercy Seat

God's justice woven into mercy. God moves us back into blessing. What is the way back to Paradise? The cross. Genesis 3:21 → cross → glorious mix of justice & mercy.

We see God as one or the other – God of love and the God of justice. Anything unjust cannot enter Paradise. Bible is filled with twin truths. Interpret Scripture by Scripture – good bible exegesis. Adam & Eve offended by the first sacrifice – the cross is the great offense.

Eyes focused to top of mercy seat. Below the mercy seat lie the commandments. God is more interested in mercy than justice. Jesus' blood will flow on the mercy seat. Angels are satisfied.

Law – righteous standard

The provision to meet that standard is Jesus.

Jesus is the Tree of Life. Touch the tree of Life – we have eternal life

Communion – “take and eat all of you” Adam & Eve – took of fruit and ate

Reversal of wrongs of Genesis 3

Paradise opened – Jesus' shed blood is the only door to eternal life. Garden of Eden all over again. God's way of salvation is simple.

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God's goal is to bring us back into Paradise.

Revelation 22

God will fulfill His purpose.

The first human murder was when Cain killed Abel.

Genesis 4 is a defining chapter.

Genesis 4:1-8 talks about 2 seeds.

We need to choose between man's ideas (Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil) and God's plan (the Tree of Life). It is our choice. Which way will you go? Will we choose God's ways leading to life or will we choose to say, “thank you God, but I'm only interested in my own way.

John 14:6 – Jesus is the Only Way to God.

Cain got angry because he didn't like that there was only one way. He wants things his own way.

There are some things we need to be dogmatic about.

Acts 4:12

God defined the rules.

There are increased anger, persecutions, and martyrs today. Anger is a sign that we're wrong. Sin is lying at the door seeking to take over your life.

I John 3:11-15

Each person deals with the anger issue. We need to admit we were wrong and take responsibility for our choices. However, we're often unwilling to bow down to the fact that we're wrong.

God loves us. God wants us to experience Paradise regained.

People want to validate their opinion without having all the facts.

Jesus offered Cain a scapegoat. Abel because Cain's scapegoat.

When we're angry we do not want to go to the Lord. We go to others instead and make them our scapegoat. We need to identify that we have a part of Cain in us. Jesus is our scapegoat.

People ask why their good deeds aren't enough. Man wants to be his own god. Cain wanted to be his own savior. Seventy percent of people believe that good people go to Heaven.

My way, my opinions

Satan was cast out of Heaven due to pride. Cain had that same proud spirit.

Grace is God's unmerited, undeserved, and unearned favor.

Man is a hopeless case, but God has a way. We need to humble ourselves and take God's way.

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Genesis 4 is more than just a story of 2 brothers, it is a story of the consequences of choosing man's ways over God's way.

Seed of Cain – anger. Anger could kill you if you don't deal with it.

The challenge today is relativism. It is rooted in anger and battles of will.

The first thing that a person has when they are angry is a high opinion of himself/herself. We need to agree with God about our sinful condition. We get angry and full of resentment when other people challenge us. God's way is right.

There are results to our choices. Love is God's correction. Man shakes his fist at God. The Lord gets us to the place where we get to the end of ourselves. We need to crucify the seed of Cain on the cross.

Genesis 4:10-15

Cain was a fugitive. Bishop Rogers and Pastor Carlson described being a fugitive as "a man going his own way and being on the run because he's running from something." Sin costs more than we can bear. People get restless going from one thing to another, whether that is their career, getting a new spouse, or moving to another place. Anger and restlessness are the seeds of Cain showing up inside of us, as well as a sign that we are not resting in the Lord. Having the peace of God and having peace with God are tremendously important. When you're restless, it means you're not on the right path.

American culture teaches us that change is better and it will make us happy. We want more, bigger, and better. Pastor Carlson grew up in the way of Cain. He didn't realize that Christ was the only way.

Motivations are important. I can't break it anymore. Anger and restlessness are not new – Cain originated them. In Jesus we have peace and rest.

What happened to Abel?

Bishop Rogers and Pastor Carlson moved into Genesis 5 where it talks about the genealogy from Seth to Noah.

Genesis 5:3 – man in father's image

Genesis 1:26 – God's image

Genesis 5:24 – some people lived to be over 900 years old. Today, most people die at the age of 80 or before.

Why did people live so long back then? Methusaleh lived to be 969 years old. God is teaching us that during the Millennium people will be living 1,000 years on the earth.

After the Flood, people went from living to be hundreds of years old, to 120 years of age, then down to 80 years old.

Revelation 20:6 In the Millennial Reign of Christ, the righteous will rule.

Pesticides, the ozone, and wrinkles of skin are all factors of why we don't live so long now.

We are destroying the beauty of God's creation. God said that man would treat this earth bad.

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Genesis is the foundation for the rest of the Bible. The Bible is written as a fantastic novel. It has a story line throughout. Jesus is the central Person of the Bible.

Genesis 5:1-5

An important change takes place here. Before Genesis 5, man was born in God's image. Genesis 5 and after, man was born in man's image. Sin is so powerful. We are born with a sin nature we get from our parents. Many times people say, "I'm just like my mom..." or "I'm just like my dad..."

The real mystery is why people lived so long before the Flood. Adam lived to be 930 years old. There has never been any human being that has lived on the earth that has lived to be 1,000 years old.

Some people wonder if there will ever be a Millennium. According to Genesis 5, a Millennium is possible. It happened in history.

Revelation 20:6

People hold to certain views of the future. Pastor Jeff Carlson is "pre-mil." He believes the Rapture will occur first, then Christ will return to the earth in His second coming, then He will rule and reign on this earth, which is known as the Millennial Reign of Christ.

Some people do not believe that the Millennial Reign of Christ will be a literal 1,000 years long, but Pastor Jeff Carlson and Bishop Robert Rogers do.

When you pray the "Lord's Prayer," you are really praying for the Millennial Reign of Christ. Genesis 5 gives us an early glimpse into the future. Even though pastors may not preach very much on Genesis 5, it is an important connection and transition into Genesis chapter 6.

Matthew 24:37-42

The average person does not believe that the future events of the Bible are possible and that they will actually happen. Today people want to be entertained. "Entertainment" stirs up people to do evil. The average child today watches 30 hours of TV a week.

God put the things in the Bible on purpose. If they happened once, they will happen again. Many verses in the Bible have dual meanings. Methuselah lived to be 969 years old – the most of any human on the earth.

Adam did have many other children, but the Bible is silent as to how many children Adam had and who most of them were. Just like in Genesis 5, there is a population boom today.

Good News is coming – God will send a Revival. His faithful remnant is growing and powerful. Enoch never died – “the Lord took him.” That fact helps us look forward to the Rapture of the church. Enoch and Elijah could be the 2 witnesses in the book of Revelation since they are the only 2 individuals who have not died. God has not forgotten us. He understands. The Lord will come. One day the Rapture will come.

I Thessalonians 1:10

God doesn't want us to taste or experience judgment because He loves us.

Enoch was the 7th from Adam.

I Thessalonians 4:13-18 talks about the Rapture. I Corinthians chapter 15 talks about the resurrection.

Pastor Carlson and Bishop Rogers are looking to obtaining salvation. They are not looking forward to a Flood.

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Get into the Bible and study for yourself. Noah – children at 500 years old

Christ's return – Genesis 5

Enoch

Noah – today's Christian laborer

We work hard to win the lost to Jesus Christ and desire to know Him intimately.

Genesis 5 – Enoch – 7th generation from Adam – rest – sabbatical

Noah's name means rest. Noah was the 10th generation. 10 = completion

Resting in the Lord. Your labor is not grievance. Our labor comes out of our rest.

The Lord chooses how many people on the ark – 8 – new beginning – Sunday is the 8th day – new beginning in Jesus

Genesis 6:1-3

Rapid population increase

Connection Genesis 5 & 6 → today

You see something in the Bible that you question? Search the Bible for answers.

Reader's Digest portion of the Bible

Can't understand New Testament without the Old Testament

Genesis 6:2 Sons of God chose to walk with God. Daughters of men would seduce people away from God. Watering down testimony.

Jewish fear is that their sons marry outside of the faith and stray away from it.

Watering down – affecting God's witness in the world

Sons of God today are often being seduced into porn

Visual allurements – seeing

Church is no better than the world. God, do something about it. Fast moving in that direction. Limit to what iniquity can do. God has an endpoint. Church – weak and we think that things will continue as they always have. One day God will intervene. God's heart is tender. He wants all of us to be saved & redeemed. Get busy building the ark.

Genesis 6:5

Something triggers thinking – continual process – Internet

Man constantly chooses to make bad out of the good things that God gave us.

Why did the Lord give a Flood? It takes us back to Genesis 1 – Day 3 when the water came.

Take the world into a new Genesis. Water baptism – new Genesis, new life – Genesis 1, Genesis 6.

Doorway of sanctification

Out of Jesus' side came water & blood

Genesis 6:6-8 man's evil grows & grieves God – grace to Noah and us. The Lord will love us even though we don't deserve it. The Lord sees all the evil. It is a burdensome thing to Him.

One day I'm going to put an end to this. Mercy and grace – God's mercy is that He doesn't want sin to continue. Sins leading to chaos – judgment – way to escape – Ark

Walk with God and escape His wrath!

School of the Bible Notes – Program #28

Nothing old in Genesis

Some things will be a pattern or something like it will show up in our lives. Unlocking the word of God to me.

Rest of Bible flows out of Genesis. Many months to build foundation.

Overview: creation → God's love → fall of man → Genesis 4 → Cain (seed of serpent) & Abel (seed of woman)

Cain's seed growing evil – no joy, no life

Blessings → judgment

The Lord is in pain about this. They talked about the similarities between Genesis 6 and today.

Removal of basic things about God → evil is increasing

Media – Johnny Carson in the 1960's couldn't use the word pregnant during his programs because the censors thought the word was too controversial → today increasing evil. The Lord's name is taken in vain often on regular TV.

Genesis 6:5 God's feeling of sin, God's grief.

Evil dominating people's thoughts. Internet – evil images, thoughts. Top 10 Internet websites are porn sites.

Point of no choice – chaos, judgment

Disease – medical people used to quarantine sick people to control and hold something in so it can't get out was an act of mercy. God is quarantining evil.

God identifies and personally feels grief of sin → Jesus personally enters Himself and takes pain for us → Calvary

3 beginnings: Eden, Noah, Abraham

God's persistence. Man on his own will never live righteous – we need a Savior. The Lord brings an end → new beginning. God is the God of 2nd chances. God of mercy – another opportunity.

Genesis 6:9

Not just violence itself, but people glory in it. Noah is the resurrection of the seed of the woman rescued and preserved. Noah is found in the genealogy of Jesus. Serpent was crushed through the Seed of the woman. All throughout history there has been a remnant of faithful people. That faithful remnant can be found all around the world today.

8 → connection to remnant → new beginning

World restored → new beginning → new order

Patterns of Genesis 6 today

In Hebrew, Noah's name means rest.

Restlessness in people → rest

Ark – Genesis 6:13

Command to build Ark – no water to need it

Our work in the world doesn't make a lot of sense to people – preserve them

Church – God is preparing people to escape the judgment. Judgment begins in the house of the Lord. The Lord is cleansing His church.

Noah had the 1st divine building program. Genesis 4 – Cain built a city – his work

The Lord is building His kingdom. The gates of Hell will never prevail against it.

God's work is always bigger than our ability to do it.

One detail: Ark → God providing an Ark for us

Godhead is 3 in 1. There were 3 floors in the Ark.

Not old – alive

Escape judgment, experience mercy and love. Don't be afraid of coming judgment. The Ark is coming. Celebrate your new beginning with the Lord.

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Genesis 6

Tying Old Testament and New Testament together

Genesis → rest of Bible

Matthew 24:37

We are accountable for our lives and sin.

I don't think there's a reality. Lack of belief in a big way that God will judge sin. Unaware of a God that loves them and will judge sin. Signs are here: violence, evil imaginations. Programs on TV have violence, murder, and rape. There is a growing unawareness that God is there. God is holy. He hates sin. In our entertainment many people feel that entertainment must have violence and murder to attract larger audiences. Our appetite for violence has increased.

Genesis 6 → today

People don't believe in a God of judgment. Love corrects wrong. True love is courage to help people do right. Love saves and protects. Justice and accountability for sin are acts of love. God takes our behavior seriously. God's law contains the things that we need to be interested in doing.

Sin's result is death. Sin costs us more than we realize, takes us further than we wanted to go, and is messier than we ever dreamed.

The watchman in the book of Ezekiel – it was his responsibility to warn people of impending doom. Failure to do so would result in the death of the watchman. Another judgment – the only people who will escape are those that are in the Ark. The Ark is open to anyone who would believe. The average person says that God is not going to judge sin or send people to Hell.

Future → happened in the past

God is required to judge iniquity. God is the originator of love and mercy. It has to end. The judge would be run out of town if he failed to administer justice in the court system today. Ask God to be your judge. Don't judge our sin. Be ready. The Lord has to hold us accountable. Let's be busy building our ark.

There is an important distinction between faith, works, and the Ark. Noah had daily works to do. It's impossible to be a Christian and not do good works.

Church – faith without works – James

Faith – transformation – word of God to Noah – Noah got busy. Missing blessings of getting into His work. Great Commission – work of greater Noah – gates of Hell will not prevail against it. Receive grace, we have a job to do, be urgent, and bring as many people with you as you can into the Ark.

Spiritual unemployment – think pastor only gets involved. What we believe takes over our life – blessings. Sermons encourage people to get involved. The purpose is to warn people of coming judgment and the grace and salvation that come through Jesus.

Spiritual Employment Agency: take what you learned and spread it around