

Harmony Church – Chronological Bible Study Guide - Genesis Chapters 1-5

In the Beginning

Introduction Video- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQI72THyO5I>

Genesis is the Bible's first book of law. Genesis, Chapter's 1 to 11, are also called the "primeval history" because these chapters provide us with the earliest discussion of the creation of the humanity.

In the beginning God, a spirit hovering over an empty, watery void, creates the world by speaking into the darkness and calling into being light, sky, land, vegetation, and living creatures over the course of six days. Each day, he pauses to pronounce his works "good" (1:4). On the sixth day, God declares his intention to make a being in his "own image," and he creates humankind (1:26). He fashions a man out of dust and forms a woman out of the man's rib. God places the two people, Adam and Eve, in the idyllic garden of Eden, encouraging them to procreate and to enjoy the created world fully, and forbidding them to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

In the garden, Eve encounters a crafty serpent who convinces her to eat the tree's forbidden fruit, assuring her that she will not suffer if she does so. Eve shares the fruit with Adam, and the two are immediately filled with shame and remorse. While walking in the garden, God discovers their disobedience. After cursing the serpent, he turns and curses the couple. Eve, he says, will be cursed to suffer painful childbirth and must submit to her husband's authority. Adam is cursed to toil and work the ground for food. The two are subsequently banished from Eden.

Sent out into the world, Adam and Eve give birth to two sons, Cain and Abel. Cain, a farmer, offers God a portion of his crops one day as a sacrifice, only to learn that God is more pleased when Abel, a herdsman, presents God with the fattest portion of his flocks. Enraged, Cain kills his brother. God exiles Cain from his home to wander in the land east of Eden. Adam and Eve give birth to a third son, Seth. Through Seth and Cain, the human race begins to grow.

Chapter 1

Creation: in the beginning - God started creation (Insert a good map)

Key Verses: Genesis 1:1-3, "1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.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.3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."

the first day - light was created

the second day - the sky was created

the third day - dry land, seas, plants and trees were created

the fourth day - the Sun, Moon and stars were created

the fifth day - creatures that live in the sea and creatures that fly were created

the sixth day - animals that live on the land and finally humans, made in the image of God were created

by day seven - God finished his work of creation and rested, making the seventh day a special holy day.

Chapter 2

Key Verses: Genesis 2:1-3, "1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.2 And 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.3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made."

In Genesis 2, some people think that the story goes on to give more detail about the creation of humans, seen as two individuals, Adam and Eve.

Adam was made from 'the dust of the ground' when God breathed life into him. Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs to provide company and help for Adam. They lived in a special place called the Garden of Eden. Both of them were given the task and responsibility to look after the place that God had created for them.

Main differences

There are some contradictions between the two accounts in Genesis 1 and 2, such as the order of when animals and humans were created:

Genesis 1 - it states that animals, and finally humans, were created on day six

Genesis 2 - it implies that humans were created before animals

Some people think that Genesis 2 is just a more in-depth look at day six.

Chapter 3

Key Verses: Genesis 3:1, "3 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

So, the serpent decided to tempt Adam's wife. The woman claimed that God had forbidden her from eating of the tree lest she be killed. The serpent, however, countered her belief and told her that the fruit would not kill her, but give her knowledge equal to that of God. The woman ate the fruit and, afterwards, convinced Adam to do so as well. Man Hides from God.

Immediately after Adam had eaten the forbidden fruit, they noticed that they were naked and sewed leaves together to cover their bodies. Later, when they heard God walking in the garden, they hid themselves from Him in the bushes. When God called to them, asking where they were, Adam replied that they were hiding because of their nudity. When He asked how they came to know they were nude, they told the Lord of how the woman had been tricked by the serpent, and Adam by the woman.

Chapter 4

This chapter describes inherent sin and how it exists in all of us.

Key Verses: Genesis 4:1-2, "And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground."

Chapter 4 depicts the tragic story of the brothers, Cain and Abel. Cain and Abel were twins born of Adam and Eve. Abel was a sheep herder; Cain was a farmer. Over time, Cain and Abel began presenting offerings to God. The Lord was pleased with Abel's offerings. However, he was dissatisfied with Cain's offerings. Cain responded angrily to God's criticisms. God warned Cain of the dire consequences of hatred, anger, and sin. In spite of God's warning, Cain killed his brother Abel. He was overcome by sin and ultimately upset and shocked their family.

When God found out Cain had killed Abel, he was furious and so he punished Cain by placing a curse on him. The soil which Cain worked would be fruitless and would from then on would not harvest crops. When Cain became upset by the curse which was set upon him, God made it so he could not kill anyone else.

Chapter 4 describes the creation of a new, iniquitous society: a city of Cain's descendants. Cain named it "Nod" and it was located to the East of Eden. Cain's city was full of selfishness, violence, and corruption. Genesis 4 to 11 tells us of the emergence of Humanity's sin on Earth. The Bible's Chapter 4 also presents the lives Abel and Seth, men born of Adam and Eve.

Chapter 5

Key Verses: Genesis 5:27-32, "And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.28 And Lamech lived an hundred eighty and two years, and begat a son:29 And he called his name Noah, saying, This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD hath cursed.30 And Lamech lived after he begat Noah five hundred ninety and five years, and begat sons and daughters:31 And all the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy and seven years: and he died.32 And Noah was five hundred years old: and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth."

Adam lived for 930 years and begot Seth at 130 years old. Seth begot Enos at 105 years old and died at the age of 912. Enos fathered Cainan at 90 years old, and died at age 905. Cainan begot Mahaleel at 70 years old, and died at age 910. Mahaleel lived 65 years and fathered Jared, dying at age 895. Jared begot Enoch at age 162 and died at age 962. Enoch fathered Methuselah at age 65, and died at the end of 365 years. The Birth of Noah

Methuselah begot Lamech and died at 969 years of age. Lamech lived for 777 years and fathered a son. He called him Noah, meaning "comforter" or "liberator." Noah begot three sons called Ham, Japheth, and Shem.