



Genesis - *Beginnings and Foundations*

Introduction - 12 Chapter Study
Nov 3, 2024

Module 5, Room 1

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Nov 3, 2024 – Genesis – Introduction*
 - *Nov 4, 2024 – 6 PM – Pray for our country – Franklin Graham coordinated a prayer event*
 - *Nov 5, 2024 – Manor Lake Daniel Ch 3*
 - *Nov 5, 2024 – Election Day – **VOTE & PRAY***
- *Nov 10, 2024 – Genesis – Beginnings*
- *Nov 17, 2024 – Genesis*
- *Nov 24, 2024 – Genesis*
- *Nov 27, 28 – Thanksgiving*

Quick Update .../CYMI

Middle East

- *Iran is threatening a response to Israel, Israel is preparing*
- *Lebanon wants to stop the warring and has a plan to cease the back and forth.*
 - *Hezbollah and Iran are not in support of the Lebanese plan*
 - *Israel has not committed yet*
- *Hamas refuses to negotiate the release of prisoners*
 - *Israel keeps pounding them and destroying Gaza's Infrastructure*
- *US trying to contain further war, to little effect*

US/World

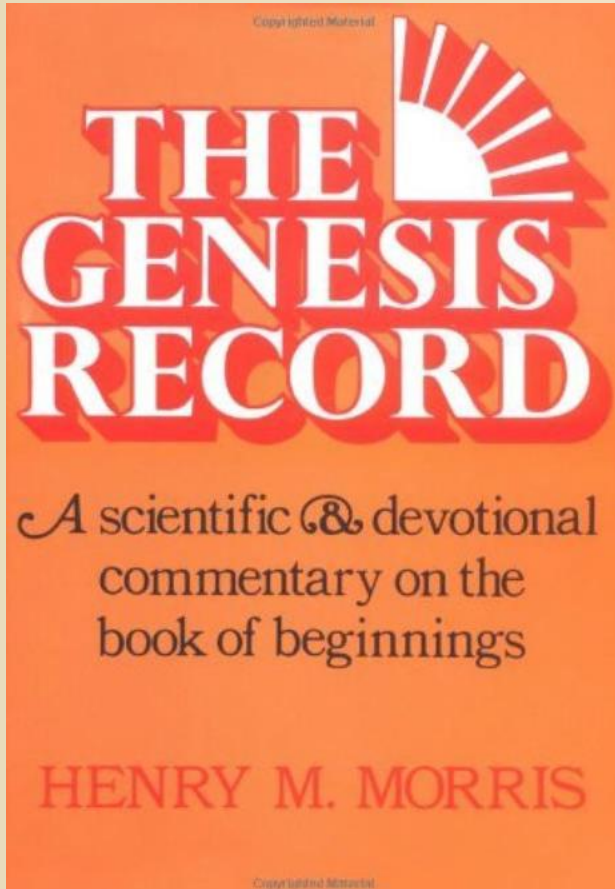
- *Massive Early Voting turnout. Still appears to be very close*
- *Lawsuits on election laws and noncitizens voting*
- *Some frantic end-of-the-world type ads running*
- *Hopefully, the Election will occur without more violence or assassination attempts.*
- ***Depending on who wins, we may see violence break out in some cities***
- ***President Biden is AWOL on the world stage and with events in the US***
- *Watch for Chinese and Iranian provocation before the election*
- *Other nations meddling in our elections is increasing*

Thoughts about our current study...



- *Genesis means “beginnings” or “origins”*
- *It is not just a book of the Bible, but an explanation of Life*
- *We can believe it or not believe it, but it is what it is, and we have to deal with it*
- *It is unique among books, and we need to understand what makes it that way*
- *We will take our time to go through this study. It is Important!*

Resources used to guide our discussions



Henry M. Morris

American young earth creationist and Christian apologist



Henry Madison Morris was an American young Earth creationist, Christian apologist and engineer. He was one of the founders of the Creation Research Society and the Institute for Creation Research. He is considered by many to be "the father of modern creation science". [Wikipedia](#)

Born Henry Madison Morris, October 06, 1918, Dallas, Texas, U.S.

Age at death 87 years

Died February 25, 2006, Santee, California, U.S.

I will use all my normal resources plus this book. It is out of print now, but there are used versions available through booksellers and Amazon. It is easy to read and understand. I recommend it for your library.

Our Journey into the beginnings...*of everything*

- *Many of us have commentaries on the Old Testament that deal with Genesis in the same way that they deal with other books of the Bible. Still, before we get to an individual book/chapter study, we must step back and take a wider look at this book... **Step back to the beginning.***
- *I connect with this commentary because Dr. Morris was an Engineer, a Scientist, and a Strong believer in the authority and accuracy of the Bible. Plus, he was an organized and gifted teacher and writer. This book takes a scientific approach to Genesis and Creation. For many of us, this gives us some scientific understanding and mental comprehension of creation.*

TGR (The Genesis Record) – Forward

Although there are more than 20 commentaries on Genesis currently in print, there is a unique need for this one. So far as we know, this is the only commentary on the complete Book of Genesis written by a Creation Scientist.”

Why is this important?

- *If we believe that the Bible is the true and accurate Word of the Lord to us, then the stories in Genesis are not merely entertaining but contain the actual truth of creation.*
- *Many Churches and Scholars do not teach the words and precepts as truth but rather as Allegories mixed with vague truths. The notion of Evolution so prevalent in education today has weakened the teaching of this great book.*
- *Our understanding is critical to a Biblical Foundation for the rest of the Bible to be seen as Truth. From a scientific explanation, the more archeology and history we uncover, the more the Bible shows itself to be a reliable and truthful account.*
- *While Genesis is an important study for the complete book, I will focus on the first 12 chapters that take us from Creation to the Calling of Abraham*

Beginnings and Foundations...

- *One could argue that the Book of Genesis is the most important book ever written, and even critics would agree it has had profound persuasion on the ideas that have shaped modern society.*
- *Without the foundational quality of this book, it would be like a building with no foundation trying to stay upright in the chaos of life's storms and floods.*
- *Many people, including many Christians, would like to remove Genesis from the Bible altogether because it presents a set of problems that require honest belief and acceptance.*
- *While creation history tries to explain the natural events that brought the world we know into existence, the Book of Genesis takes a different approach and explains what happened and why ...from God's point of view.*
- *His point of view and the reasons behind the creation cannot be overstated as we try and explain God's actions with His People, and mankind in general in the balance of the OT and NT. Without this understanding, the Bible and its redemptive purposes are not clearly seen.*
- *While secular History provides an animalistic, naturalistic narrative of the world, the Book of Origins provides a true and reliable account of the origins of **all entities** of the universe **and of life itself**.*

Genesis provides answers for...

- ✓ *The Origin of the Universe*
- ✓ *The Origin of Order and Complexity*
- ✓ *The Origin of the Solar System*
- ✓ *The Origin of the Atmosphere and Hydrosphere*
- ✓ *Origin of Life*
- ✓ *Origin of Man and Woman*
- ✓ *Origin of Marriage*

- ✓ *Origin of Evil*
- ✓ *Origin of Language*
- ✓ *Origin of Government*
- ✓ *Origins of Nations / Tribes*
- ✓ *Origin of Religion*
- ✓ *Origin of the Chosen People*
- ✓ *And many other things...*

We will explore all these origins as we work our way through Genesis

Before Creation...*What we need to understand*

- *Genesis sets this all up with the **Origin of Matter** itself. Without Matter, nothing could be **created** or **procreated**.*
- *God also **created what we call “time.”** According to the Bible, there was a time when Time did not exist, and there will be a time when Time goes away.*
- *Even harder to think about is that **God created the idea of Space**—not Outer Space, but the 3-dimensional place where all things are stored.*

Time, Matter, and Space are the building blocks of Creation.

One of the larger Q's we need to deal with is about God Himself...

***Where did God come from?** An interesting Q for sure, but it points out our own limitations when it comes to comprehending God*

God is Self-Existent

*God existed Before Time, Before Matter, and Before Space. When we ask Q's like **where did God come from?** We are placing Him in a restriction of either time, space, or matter. He is not restricted by any of these and is outside of all of them. I know this is a mind-blowing thought, but God is self-existent...He has always been...*

Definition : self-existent -self-ex·is·tent

Adjective

existing of or by oneself or itself independently of any other being or cause:
not caused to exist by someone or something else

This whole concept of God and Creation is hard for people to get their minds around. It seems fanciful and incomprehensible...yet here we are, and we must accept these things as a matter of faith.

Is Genesis Truth or Myth?

- *Most criticisms of the Book of Genesis are confined to Chapters 1-11, where God is supernaturally active, and some believe this is a myth. **Our study will encompass these Chapters and then the calling of Abram.***
- ***Is Genesis truth or myth?***
 - *I guess it is in the eye of the beholder, but did you know that Genesis is the most referenced book in the OT and NT?*
 - *Referenced by events, people, and prophets in 15 places in the OT and 11 in the NT.*
 - *One hundred sixty-five passages in Genesis are either directly quoted or referred to in the NT (TGR).*
 - *Also, each of the 11 chapters most rejected is mentioned in the NT many more than 1 time.*
- *Jesus Christ Himself quoted from or referenced these people, or events, from the first 7 chapters.*

So, what does this all mean?

- *It means that they implicitly accepted these narratives as the Word of God and therefore true without question.*

There is no evidence of any waffling on this truth in the NT at all.

- *It also means that one cannot reject the historicity and divine authority of Genesis without undermining the authority of the entire Bible.*
- *The alternative of believing the rest of the Bible and not Genesis is a nod to our own lack of understanding of the true nature and presence of an Almighty and Ever-Present God*
- *If Jesus and the Apostles accepted the author and people of the book of Genesis and the narrative it provides...Who am I to disagree?*

OK, Who wrote the Book of Genesis?

*As I mentioned when we Studied **God's Appointed Times**, the Jews believe it was written by Moses and given to them at Mount Sinai along with the tablets of stone. Many believe Moses received inspiration from God at Sinai and the understanding to write the first 5 books of the OT, called the **Torah**.*

- This is the common understanding of most Christians and Jews, but others believe Genesis was written by many people later in time. This is because they doubt the existence of monotheism and culture to write such a book in the time of Moses.*
- These critical theories have largely disappeared as geologists have uncovered many artifacts that confirm both the existence of Monotheism and advanced culture in Moses himself and the culture in general.*

If we can agree that Moses wrote the Book of Genesis, how did it come to him?
Generally, two theories might apply.

- 1. It was dictated to him by the Holy Spirit, and Moses simply wrote it down.*
- 2. The Holy Spirit passed it to him as Oral History, and Moses wrote and compiled it into the finished work we have now, the Book of Genesis.*

Genesis can be divided into 9 main groupings:

- 1. The Generations of the Heavens and the Earth (Gen 1.1-2.4a)*
- 2. The Book of the Generations of Adam (Gen 2:4b-5:1a)*
- 3. The Generations of Noah (Gen 5:1b- 6:9a)*
- 4. The Generations of the Sons of Noah (Gen 6:9b-10:1a)*
- 5. The Generations of Shem (Gen 10:1b- 11:10a)*
- 6. The Generations of Terah (Gen 11:10b- 11:27)*
- 7. The Generations of Isaac (Gen 11:27b- 25:19)*
- 8. The Generations of Jacob (Gen 25:19b-37:2)*
- 9. The Generations of the Sons of Jacob (Gen 37:2b- Exodus 1:1)*

Principles of Interpretation

- *I will follow the principle that unless the Bible says it is an allegory, I will treat it as a literal truth. Others use the Allegory Method of interpretation that assumes most of the first 11 chapters are not literal. For example, that Adam or Eve were not real people, the Garden of Eden is not a real place, and the discussions and genealogies are not real but metaphorical. I cannot do this way of thinking so I will not.*
- *Finally, others see Genesis as a “Type” and the references in it are just images of things to come in the NT or life of Christ. While there are many examples of ties between Genesis and the NT stories and life of Christ, they are regarded as pre-conditioning believers for what is to come. For example, the First Adam and the Second Adam in Romans. Eve as a type of the Church in Ephesians 5, and Abraham and Isaac as a prototype of The Father and Son being sacrificed for all.*
- *TYPES are really illustrations for us to deepen our understanding of the scripture, and not to be taken allegory. These were real and treated that way in the Bible...in both Testaments.*

Finally – Genesis is Anticipation for Eternity

Comparison- Created (probationary) World of Genesis and the Eternal World

Creation World - Genesis		Eternal World (Revelation)		
	Genesis			Revelation
Division of Light and Darkness	(1:4)	No Night There		(21:25)
Division of Land and Sea	(1:10)	No more Sea		(21:1)
Rule of the Sun and Moon	(1:16)	No need of Sun and Moon		(21:23)
Man in a Prepared Garden	(2:8-9)	Man in a Prepared city		(21:2)
River Flowing out of Eden	(2:10)	River flowing from God's Throne		(22:1)
Gold in the Land	(2:12)	Gold in the City		(21:21)
Tree of Light in the midst of the Garden	(2:9)	Tree of Life throughout the City		(22:2)
Bdellium and the Onyx Stone	(2:12)	All Manner of Precious Stones		(21:9)
God Walking in the Garden	(3:8)	God Dwelling with His People		(21:3)
Cursed World	Genesis	Eternal World		Revelation
Cursed Ground	(3:17)	No More Curse		(22:3)
Daily Sorrow	(3:17)	No More Sorrow		(21:4)
Thorns and Thistles	(3:18)	No More Pain		(21:4)
Sweat on the face	(3:19)	Tears Wiped Away		(21:4)
Eating Herbs of the Field	(3:18)	Twelve Manner of Fruits		(22:2)
Returning to the dust	(3:19)	No more Death		(21:4)
Evil Continually	(6:5)	Nothing to Defileth		(21:27)
Coats of Skins	(3:21)	Fine Linen, White and clean		(19:14)
Satan Opposing	(3:15)	Satan Banished		(20:10)
Kept from the Tree of Life	(3:24)	Access to the Tree of Life		(22:14)
Banished from the Garden	(3:23)	Free Entry to the City		(22:14)
Redeemer Promised	(3:15)	Redemption Accomplished		(5:9, 10)

Before the Fall

After the Fall

Genesis – Revelation
Bookends of the Bible

Next Week, we will begin Genesis Ch 1

- *Pray for God to move in the US, protect Israel, and their leaders*
- *Pray for the Election this Tuesday, that HIS will be done...*
- *Pray for First Redeemer Pastors, staff, teachers, and all who lead*
- *Pray for your family and friends inside and outside the church.*
*Pray for healing for those in grief and recovery, **Be thankful for answered prayer...participate in the 30 days of Prayer***
- *Be thankful that God has placed you **in this day and time** and commit **your** will ...to doing **His** Will.*
- *Pray for those who don't know the Lord to come to Him*
- *Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to fill the land*