

GOD, THE CREATOR OF THE WORLD

Genesis 1:1

As you begin your study of the Bible, notice Who is the first Person to be mentioned, and seek to understand as much as you can about Him. This will help you greatly in all your future studies:

A. The Setting for Creation:

1. When does the Bible story begin? Genesis 1:1a

2. What is the first event recorded? Genesis 1:1b

B. The Persons Involved in Creation:

1. Who created the heaven and the earth? Genesis 1:1

NOTE: The Hebrew word translated God in this sentence is a plural noun, *Elohim*, meaning might or strength.

2. List the three pronouns referring to God in Genesis 1:26a

3. Are they singular or plural? _____ What would this indicate? (*THINK!*)

4. When we see the word *God*, to whom do we normally consider that it refers?

5. Who was in the beginning with God the Father? (See John 1:1, 2)

6. By what name is this Person commonly known today? (See John 1:14 and *THINK!*)

7. Who moved upon the face of the waters? Genesis 1:2b

8. What two names are given to this Person in other parts of the Bible? (See Psalm 51:11; Acts 1:8a) _____

NOTE: These two names are the same in the original languages of the Bible. The translators of our King James Version were not always consistent in using the same English word to translate the same Hebrew or Greek word. Later versions usually use *Holy Spirit*, rather than *Holy Ghost*.

C. The Relationship of the Persons Involved in Creation:

1. Notice that there are two distinct ways in which the word *God* is used, as illustrated in John 1:1:

a. In the clause, "the Word was with God," the word *God* obviously refers to God the Father;

b. In the clause, "the Word was God," the word *God* refers to the kind of nature Jesus had in the beginning: God-nature, rather than the nature of a creature, such as an angel or a human being. What other Person is also referred to as God, because He also has the very nature of God? (Compare Acts 5:3 with Acts 5:4b) _

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2. Notice, however, that although these three persons are all called *God*, they are three distinct persons, and not all the same person:
 - a. When *Jesus* was baptized, the *Holy Spirit* descended upon Him like a dove, and *God the Father* spoke with a voice from heaven:
Matthew 3:16, 17.
 - b. *Jesus* said that He would pray to the *Father*, asking Him to send *the Comforter*, who is the *Holy Spirit*: John 14:16, 17.
3. And yet, there is only *one* God, as illustrated by the following:
 - a. The verb in Genesis 1:1 is singular, although the noun used for *God* is plural.
 - b. Deuteronomy 6:4 states that, “The Lord our God is *one* Lord.” The word translated *one* is the word used to denote one thing composed of several parts, rather than the word used to denote one thing all of one part. This word would be used to describe one watch (made of several parts), or one family (composed of several members).
4. Thus we see that there is *one* God, eternally existing in *three* Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; who are equal in their God-nature, and in their divine (di-VINE: of or pertaining to God) characteristics or attributes, such as unlimited wisdom, power, etc., and yet are different in their works (See D. 4). This truth has been given the name trinity or tri-unity: a union of three in one.

D. The Part of Each in Creation:

1. What was the part of God the Father in creation? 1 Corinthians 8:6a

2. What was the part of God the Son in creation? 1 Corinthians 8:6b; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2b

3. With what quality is the name of the Holy Spirit often associated? Acts 1:8a; Micah 3:8; Luke 1:35; Romans 15:13b, 19a; 1 Thessalonians 1:5

4. Did He have any part in creation? Genesis 1:2b; Psalm 104:30; Job 26:13

Someone has compared the Godhead (divine nature or essence) to an architectural firm: God the Father representing the architect, who plans and initiates each action; God the Son representing the builder, who oversees the construction project; and God the Spirit representing the workers, who actually carry out the work. Notice how this was true in the story of creation above.

E. The Method of Creation:

1. How did God make the various parts of creation? Genesis 1:3a, 6a, 9a, 11a, 14a, 20a, 24a, 26a, and Psalm 33:6, 9

2. What does it take to understand how the worlds were made? (See Hebrews 11:3a) _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. If God did not make the worlds, who did? _____
2. Do I have faith enough to accept God's account of how the worlds were made? Or do I accept some theory of men? (See Psalm 33:6, 9)

THE CREATION OF THE WORLD

Genesis 1:2 - 2:3

Genesis 1 and 2 tells the story of creation in three phases: Genesis 1:1 might be considered the topic sentence which covers the scope of the whole story: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Genesis 1:2-2:3 goes into detail as to what was created on each day. Genesis 2:4-25 then minutely describes just how man was created. Study below the second phase of the creation story:

A. The Events On the Days of Creation:

1. What was the condition of the earth at first? Genesis 1:2a

2. List the various items which God created on each day:

a. The First Day: _____ (1:3) which was called _____ (1: 5a); and was separated from _____ (1:4b) which was called _____ (1:5b).

b. The Second Day: A firmament (FUR-ma-ment: The vault or arch of the sky) which was called _____ (1:8a); and was divided from the _____ above and below (1:7).

c. The Third Day: Separated the _____ which was called _____ (1:9, 10a) from the _____ which were called _____ (1:10b); and caused the earth to bring forth _____, _____ and _____ (1:11, 12), which we would call _____ life.

d. The Fourth Day: _____ (1:14a) _____, _____ and _____; a greater light which we would call the _____ to rule the day; a lesser light which we would call the _____ to rule the night; and the _____ (1:16).

e. The Fifth Day: Water creatures which we would call _____; and _____ which we would call _____ (1:20, 21).

f. The Sixth Day: _____, _____, _____; and _____ (1:24, 25) which we would call _____ life; and _____ (1:26, 27) which we would call _____ life.

NOTE: An image is an imitation or likeness of any person or thing. Human beings were made in the image of God in the sense that they were like Him (1) in their sinless character; (2) in their personality, which included the ability to think (mind or intellect), to feel (heart or emotions) and to choose (will or volition); and (3) in their dominion over other creatures (See 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Colossians 3:10). They were not like Him in a physical sense. This would be impossible, since God is a spirit (John 4:24), and is not limited to a body.

3. What did God do for the human beings as soon as He had made them? Genesis 1:28a

4. What three things did He tell them to do? Genesis 1:28b

- a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

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5. What did God give for food:
a. to human beings? (Two items) Genesis 1:29

b. to other creatures? Genesis 1:30

6. What did God do on the seventh day? Genesis 2:2

7. Therefore, what two things did He do to the seventh day? Genesis 2:3

NOTE: Sanctify means to make sacred or holy; to set apart to sacred use. The seventh day (Saturday) thus became the day of worship for all, and continued to be observed as such until after Jesus' resurrection, when Christians began meeting on the first day of the week in honor of that event (See John 20:1, 19, 26; Mark 16:1-6; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1, 2), although Jews continued to observe Saturday. Seventh Day Adventists and a few others also now observe Saturday as their day of worship.

8. How long do you think each day of creation was? Is there anything to indicate
a. that it was a normal, 24-hour day? _____

b. that it was longer than a normal day? _____

9. Notice that there are three separate acts of creation: one for the physical world (1:1), one for the animal world (1:21), and one for human beings (1:27). Therefore, could human beings be just highly developed animals?

NOTE: Dr. Peter W. Stoner, former Professor of the Sciences at Pasadena City College and Westmont College, lists in the first chapter of his book *Science Speaks*, thirteen events named in Genesis 1. He states that although for years scientists questioned the order of these events, they now know that they "are in the same order that geology finds them." He then goes on to prove that this is one of the strongest arguments for the inspiration of Scripture.

B. The Significance of the Order of Events On the Days of Creation:

1. Can you see a relationship between the first and fourth days? second and fifth? third and sixth?

2. For whom does it seem that all the items were prepared?

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Does it seem that God planned the order of events in creation, or did He just create haphazardly, whatever came to His mind next?

2. How should I feel when I see all that God has provided for me as a human being? (See Psalm 8:3, 4) Do I trust God to prepare logically and carefully for each part of my life in the future?

THE CREATION OF MANKIND

Genesis 2:4 – 2:25

Study now the third phase of the creation story: the minute details as related to mankind:

A. Conditions Before the Creation Of Man: Read Genesis 2:4-6

1. What two things were lacking before the creation of mankind? Genesis 2:5b

a. _____
b. _____

NOTE: TILL means to plow and prepare for seed, and to sow, dress, raise crops from, etc.; to cultivate.

2. How was the earth watered at this time? Genesis 2:6

B. The Creation of Man: Read Genesis 2:7

1. From what was man's body formed? Genesis 2:7a

2. What did God then do for man? Genesis 2:7b

3. What did man become as a result? Genesis 2:7c

NOTE: The word used here is *nephesh*, the same as that used in Genesis 1:21 and 24, there translated living creature. Therefore, could man possible have been made from some previously existing animal?

C. The Home of Man: Read Genesis 2:8-14

1. Where was man placed after he was created? Genesis 2:8

2. What four specific types of trees grew there? Genesis 2:9

a. _____ b. _____

c. _____ d. _____

3. How was the garden watered? Genesis 2:10a

4. Of the four great divisions of this river, only one is familiar to us today by its same name. Find this name at the end of Genesis 2:14.

Locate this river on a map. The garden of Eden was near its source, probably in Armenia.

D. The Responsibilities of Man: Read Genesis 2:15-17

1. What two things was man responsible to do in the garden? Genesis 2:15

2. What would he be allowed to do in return for his efforts? Genesis 2:16

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3. What was the one exception to this rule? Genesis 2:17a

4. Why did God forbid man to eat of this tree? Genesis 2:17b

E. A Helper For Man: Read Genesis 2:18-25

1. What did God say about the man after He had made him? Genesis 2:18a

2. What was God going to do to remedy this situation? Genesis 2:18b

NOTE: MEET means suitable; proper.

3. Who were brought to Adam first of all? Genesis 2:19a

4. What did Adam do for them? Genesis 2:19b, 20a

5. Yet what was still true after this? Genesis 2:20b

6. What did God then do to Adam? Genesis 2:21a

7. What did God take from Adam at this time? Genesis 2:21b

8. What did God make from this? Genesis 2:22b

NOTE: It has been said that woman was made, not from man's head to surpass him, nor from his feet to be despised, but from his side to be equal to him, from under his arm to be protected, and from near his heart to be dear to him.

9. What did God do after He had made woman? Genesis 2:22c

10. How many helpers did God provide for Adam? (See Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 19:5-8)

11. How did Adam feel about the helper God had made for him? Genesis 2:23

Notice the command which is given in connection with the story of the creation of woman for man: Genesis 2:24.

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Was there anything man needed which God did not provide for him? What did God deserve from man in return? (See Revelation 4:11)

2. Do I accept the responsibilities and commandments God gives me, as readily as I do the provisions and privileges? Do I trust Him to supply all my future needs, especially the mate of *His* choice?

MAN'S REACTION TO GOD'S COMMAND

Genesis 3:1 - 7

In their beautiful garden home, every need of the first man and woman was met. All went well for a time, but then something terrible happened. Read about this below:

A. The Serpent's Suggestion: Read Genesis 3:1

1. Which was the most SUBTLE (SUT-1; sly, wily, cunning; crafty) beast the Lord God had made? Genesis 3:1

NOTE: A serpent is an especially large snake.

2. What did he ask the woman? Genesis 3:1b
3. Who was really speaking through the serpent? (See Revelation 20:2)
4. What type of sentence was this: statement, question, or exclamation?
5. Whose word was he questioning? Genesis 3:1b
6. By this question, what did the serpent imply that God was doing to the man and woman? (See Psalm 84:11b)

B. The Woman's Answer: Read Genesis 3:2, 3

1. What had God said the man and woman must not do with the fruit of the forbidden tree? Genesis 2:17a
2. What additional idea is included in the woman's answer, which is not found in Genesis 2:17? Genesis 3:3?

C. The Serpent's Statement: Read Genesis 3:4, 5

1. What had God said would happen to the man and woman if they ate of the fruit of the tree? Genesis 2:17b
2. What did the serpent say? Genesis 3:4
3. What two things did he say would happen to them if they ate the fruit? Genesis 3:5
a. _____ b. _____
4. Again, what was he implying concerning God? Genesis 3:5 (See Psalm 84:11b) _____

D. The Woman's Deliberations: Read Genesis 3:6

1. Although the woman knew that God had forbidden her to eat of this fruit,
a. where did she continue to stay? Genesis 3:6

b. what did she continue to do? Genesis 3:6a (and *THINK!*)

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2. What three things did she notice about the fruit? Genesis 3:6
a. _____ b. _____ c. _____
3. What was the full name of this tree? Genesis 2:9b, 17a

4. Did the woman already know anything? (*THINK!* What type of things did she know?)

5. Therefore, what kind of knowledge would she gain by eating of the fruit of this tree?_

6. Did she want to know this type of thing? (*THINK!*) _____
7. What did the woman fail to consider? Genesis 2:17

8. What did this show that she lacked? (See Hebrews 11:1)

E. The Woman's Choice: Read Genesis 3:6b, 7

1. On the basis of her one-sided considerations, what two things did the woman do with the fruit? Genesis 3:6b _____
2. What did both she and her husband know immediately? Genesis 3:7a

3. Were they pleased with their new knowledge? Genesis 3:7b

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Whose word did the woman have more cause to believe--God's, or the serpent's? _

2. Am I ever guilty of listening to Satan's questioning and lies, more than to God's direct commands and specific warnings? Which of these forms is the basis for most of my life's decisions? (See 2 Corinthians 11:3)

THE RESULTS OF MAN'S CHOICE

Genesis 3:7 - 24

When the woman and her husband followed their own desires as aroused by Satan's questions and lies, they sinned because they failed to obey God's direct command, and to heed God's specific warnings. Read now about the consequences of this sin:

A. The Natural Results of Their Sin: Read Genesis 3:7-13

1. What was the first natural result of the man and woman's sin? Genesis 3:7a

2. Therefore, how did they feel in the presence of each other? (See Genesis 2:25 and *THINK!*)

3. What did they do to try to remedy this? Genesis 3:7b

4. What did they do when they heard the voice of God as He walked in the garden? Genesis 3:8

5. How does this prove what they felt in relation to God? (*THINK!*)

6. What other emotion did they feel toward God? Genesis 3:10

7. Was God pleased with their actions? Genesis 3:11

8. When God asked the man if he had disobeyed His command, what did he say? Genesis 3:12

9. When God asked the woman what she had done, what did she say? Genesis 3:13

10. This is commonly called "passing the buck"--that is, blaming someone else for the wrong which we have done. But whom did God consider guilty? Genesis 3:14a, 16a, 17a

B. The Punishments For Their Sin: Read Genesis 3:14-19, 22-24

1. Read about several parts of the physical serpent's punishment: Genesis 3:14, 15.
2. Notice that Genesis 3:15b goes beyond the physical serpent to the spiritual serpent, the devil.
 - a. What would the SEED (descendants: usually plural, but in this case, note the pronouns) of the woman do to the seed of the devil?

 - b. What would the devil do to the seed of the woman?

 - c. To whom do you think "the seed of the woman" refers? Who would eventually come to destroy the works of the devil? (See 1 John 3:8b)

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3. Genesis 3:15 is considered to be the first direct prophecy of Christ's coming. What parts of His life are foretold in the words:
- "seed of the *woman*" (not of the man, which would be the usual way of referring to offspring)? (See Matthew 1:20-23)

 - "thou (the devil) shall bruise His heel"? (See Matthew 27:35a, 50)

 - "He shall bruise thy (the devil's) head"? (See Matthew 28:5, 6; Revelation 20:10)

Watch as your study progresses for other prophecies concerning the coming of Christ.

4. Read the three parts of the woman's punishment: Genesis 3:16. Did her punishment include the fact that she would have children? Compare with Genesis 1:28a

5. Read the man's punishments: Genesis 3:17-19. Did they include the fact that he would have to work? (Compare with Genesis 2:15)

6. What was the final punishment for both man and woman? Genesis 3:23, 24

7. What did this keep them from doing? Genesis 3:22

8. Therefore, what happened to both this man and woman, and all of their descendants? Genesis 5:5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, etc. (See Romans 5:12)

C. God's Provision In Spite of Their Sin: Read Genesis 3:20, 21

- What provision did God make for the man and woman after their first sin? Genesis 3:21

- What did He have to do in order to get this clothing? (*THINK!*)

- Who else later had to die because of their sin? (See John 1:29; Isaiah 53:7, 10; Acts 8:32-35; Revelation 13:8)

- What "clothing" may be ours because of His death? (See Isaiah 61:10; Romans 5:19)

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

- Was the knowledge which Adam and Eve gained worth the price they had to pay for it?

- a. Can I ever get away with sin? Therefore, how should I feel toward sin?

- a. What must I do if I would avoid the natural results and direct punishments of sin? What must I do if I have fallen into sin already? (See Romans 6:13, 22, 23)

THE FIRST CHILDREN OF MANKIND

Genesis 4:1 - 16

It was not until after Adam and Eve had sinned that they began to fulfill one of God's earliest purposes for them as given in Genesis 1:28: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth...." Study now about their first two children:

A. Their Early Lives and Offerings To God: Read Genesis 4:1-4a

1. What were the names of Adam and Eve's first two children? Genesis 4:1, 2a

2. What were their occupations? Genesis 4:2b

3. What kind of offering did each bring to God? Genesis 4:3, 4a

a. Cain _____

b. Abel _____

B. God's Evaluation of Them and of Their Offerings: Read Genesis 4:4b, 5a

1. How did God feel concerning:

a. Abel and his offering? Genesis 4:4b _____

b. Cain and his offering? Genesis 4:5a _____

2. What do you think was the reason for this difference?

3. What must every sacrifice in Old Testament days include? (See Hebrews 9:22)

4. Did Cain and Abel have any way of knowing this? (See Genesis 3:21 and *THINK!*)

5. What was the real purpose of sacrifices or offerings to God? (See Hebrews 10:12a, 18b)

6. But what two things must be in a person's heart before God could forgive his sins? (See Acts 20:21b, c)

7. Do you think that Cain had these two things? _____ Look for indications as to whether or not he did, in the rest of the story.

8. Did Abel have these two things in his heart? (See Hebrews 11:4)

C. God's Dealings With Cain: Read Genesis 4:5b-7

1. How did Cain feel about God's evaluation of him and of his offering? Genesis 4:5b

2. Did God think that Cain should feel this way? Genesis 4:6

3. What did God indicate that Cain might yet do? Genesis 4:7a

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D. Cain's Choice and Its Results: Read Genesis 4:8

1. Did Cain do what God suggested? _____ What does this show about his attitude toward sin? Had he really repented? (*THINK!*)

2. What did Cain do to his brother? Genesis 4:8

3. Why did he do this? (See 1 John 3:12a, c)
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

E. God's Reckonings With Cain: Read Genesis 4:9-16

1. What did the Lord ask Cain? Genesis 4:9a

2. What was his reply? Genesis 3:9b

3. Was this the truth? (*THINK!*) _____ What does this show about his attitude toward sin?

4. Did God know what Cain had done, even though he refused to tell God? Genesis 4:10

5. Read the punishments God gave to Cain: Genesis 4:11, 12
NOTE: Remember that till means to cultivate. A fugitive (FU-ji-tiv) is one who flees from enemies, danger, etc. A vagabond (VAG-a-bond) is one who wanders from place to place, having no fixed dwelling.
6. How did Cain feel about his punishment? Genesis 4:13

7. What did he fear people would do to him? Genesis 4:14

8. What did God do to prevent this? Genesis 4:15

9. Where did Cain go to live after this? Genesis 4:16
From _____ To _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Why did all this evil come upon Cain?

2. Do I always seek to do what God says, in order that I may be accepted by Him? When I have not done what He said, do I appreciate God's giving me another chance? Enough to correct my behavior in that part of my life?
What may I expect to happen to me if I do not take advantage of God's offer? (See Romans 6:23a)

THE EARLY HISTORY OF MANKIND

Genesis 4:17 - 5:32

The human race continued to grow even after the death of Abel at the hand of his brother. Read below about some of the first inhabitants of the earth:

A. The Descendant of Cain: Read Genesis 4:17-24

1. What was Cain's main accomplishment after he left the presence of God? Genesis 4:17b

2. List the important descendants of Cain, and tell what each of them did:
NOTE: A descendant (de-SEN-dant) is one's offspring, near or remote; as, his child, grandchild, great-grandchild, etc.)
 - a. Genesis 4:17 _____
 - b. Genesis 4:19, 23b _____
 - c. Genesis 4:20 _____
 - d. Genesis 4:21 _____
 - e. Genesis 4:22a _____
3. Compare these activities with those of Seth's descendants listed below.

B. The Later Life of Adam: Read Genesis 4:25-5:5

1. What other son was later born to Adam? Genesis 4:25a

2. The name Seth means appointed or put. Why was this son given that name? Genesis 4:25b

3. How long did Adam live after Seth was born? Genesis 5:4a

4. What did he continue to do after this? Genesis 5:4b

NOTE: This verse probably answers the often-asked question, "Where did Cain get his wife?" No doubt Adam and Eve had many children, and Cain doubtless married one of his own sisters. This practice was common as late as the days of Abraham: (See Genesis 20:11b, 12). Because sin had not yet degraded the human body, no undesirable results occurred, such as those which are likely to occur today in similar cases.

C. The Descendants of Seth: Read Genesis 5:6-32

1. Fill in the following chart concerning Seth and his descendants:

<i>Age at which son was begotten:</i>	<i>Number of years he lived afterwards:</i>	<i>Total Age:</i>
a. Seth: Genesis 5:6 _____	Genesis 5:7 _____	Genesis 5:8 _____
b. Enos: Genesis 5:9 _____	Genesis 5:10 _____	Genesis 5:11 _____
c. Cainan: Genesis 5:12 _____	Genesis 5:13 _____	Genesis 5:14 _____
d. Mahalaleel: Genesis 5:15 _____	Genesis 5:16 _____	Genesis 5:17 _____
e. Jared: Genesis 5:18 _____	Genesis 5:19 _____	Genesis 5:20 _____
f. Enoch: Genesis 5:21 _____	Genesis 5:22 _____	Genesis 5:23 _____
g. Methuselah: Genesis 5:25 _____	Genesis 5:26 _____	Genesis 5:27 _____
h. Lamech: Genesis 5:28 _____	Genesis 5:30 _____	Genesis 5:31 _____

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2. What was the average age of these men when they died? (Exclude Enoch, since he did not die).

NOTE: There are several possible explanations as to why these men lived so long: (1) sin, which has a terrible physical effect upon the body, had only begun to take its toll; (2) the earth may have been more suited to long human life before the flood than it was afterward (notice the rapid decline in the average life span after the flood: Genesis 11:10-25); (3) it may be that God supernaturally preserved this godly line that it might replenish the earth according to God's plan as revealed in Genesis 1:28.

3. In spite of their long lives, what eventually happened to all but one of the above men? Genesis 5:5b, 8b, 11b, 14b, 17b, 20b, 27b, 31b

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4. During their lifetimes, for what were the following outstanding descendants of Seth noted?

a. Enosh: Genesis 4:26 _____

b. Enoch: Genesis 5:22, 24a _____

Genesis 24b, Hebrews 11:5a _____

Hebrews 11:5b _____

Hebrews 11:6 _____

c. Noah: Genesis 6:9a (two items) _____

Genesis 6:9b _____

5. How did these men obtain such a good report concerning themselves? (See Hebrews 11:1, 2)

D. Comparison of These Two Lines:

1. Around whom did the lives of Seth's descendants center?

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2. By contrast, around whom did the lives of Cain's descendants seem to center?

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3. How long would that which each person did be of value to him?

a. Cain's descendants: _____

b. Seth's descendants: _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Which line was more pleasing to God: Cain's, or Seth's?

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2. Which of these lines is my life most like? Am I noted for supernatural attainments, which will be of value not only on earth, but for all eternity? Or am I noted for mere earthly attainments, which will be of value only in this present life here on earth? Am I satisfied with my life as it is? Or could I make it more pleasing to God than it is?
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GOD'S GREAT DECISION CONCERNING MANKIND

Genesis 6:1 - 18

As time passed following the day of Cain and Seth, a definite trend could be seen in the behavior of mankind. Read below about this trend, and its results:

A. Conditions on Earth at This Time: Read Genesis 6:1-4

1. What began to happen to men at this time? Genesis 6:1

2. What did some of the sons of God do? Genesis 6:2

3. What two things were the basis for their choices? Genesis 6:2a, 2b

4. Did God approve of their actions? Genesis 6:3a and *THINK!*

5. Since they were sons of God, what should have been the basis for their choices? (See Revelation 4:11; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Deuteronomy 7:3, 4)

6. What did God do to try to get them not to do evil? Genesis 6:3a and *THINK!*

7. When they refused to heed God, how long did God say He would yet allow men to live on the earth? Genesis 6:3b

8. What two kinds of men lived on the earth at this time? Genesis 6:4a, b

B. God's Decision Concerning the Earth: Read Genesis 6:5-7

1. As time passed, what did God notice concerning the outward deeds of men on the earth? Genesis 6:5a

2. What was true of their inward thoughts? Genesis 6:5b

3. How did God feel about these conditions? Genesis 6:6a, b
a. _____
b. _____
4. What did God decide to do in view of these conditions? Genesis 6:7

C. God's Provision For the Few: Read Genesis 6:8-18

1. Who alone found grace in the eyes of the Lord? Genesis 6:8

2. Why was this true? Find three words and a clause that describe Noah in Genesis 6:9, 7:1b

3. By contrast, what two things were true of others in the world? Genesis 6:11

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4. Who knew all that was going on in the earth? Genesis 6:12

5. To whom did God make known His plan concerning the earth? Genesis 6:13

6. What did He tell Noah to do? Genesis 6:14a

NOTE: The word ark has two basic meanings: (1) a chest or coffer; and (2) a place of refuge. Noah's ark was the second kind. Later in this series, you will study about the first kind of ark.

7. What size was the ark to be? Genesis 6:15

Length, _____ cubits; breadth, _____ cubits; height, _____ cubits.

NOTE: A cubit is a measure of length, originally the length of the forearm from the elbow to the end of the middle finger; in English measure, nearly 18 inches or 1 1/2 feet. Therefore the ark would have been about _____ feet long.

8. What do you know that is approximately this size? (*THINK!*)

NOTE: The ark was exactly six times as long as it was wide. This is the identical proportions used in constructing our large naval vessels today.

9. How was the ark to be made waterproof? Genesis 6:14c

10. How was it to be ventilated? Genesis 6:16a

NOTE: This window doubtless ran the full length of the ark, and possibly all the way around it.

11. How many stories were to be in the ark? Genesis 6:16b

12. Into what was each of these stories to be divided? Genesis 6:14b

13. How was God going to destroy the earth? Genesis 6:17a

14. What would happen to all flesh which lived upon the earth? Genesis 6:17b

15. But what would God do with Noah? Genesis 6:18a

NOTE: A covenant (KUV-e-nant) is an agreement between persons or parties. Here it refers to God's promise to mankind.

16. What would Noah be able to do? Genesis 6:18b

17. Who else would also be allowed to do this? Genesis 6:18c

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Was God fair in planning to condemn most of the world, and yet spare Noah and his family? (See Genesis 6:5 and 9)

2. How must God feel as He looks down upon my deeds and thoughts today? Will He be able to spare me because they are righteous, or will He have to send supernatural judgment upon me because they are evil? (See 2 Peter 3:6, 7,10; Hebrews 9:27)

GOD'S GREAT JUDGMENT ON MANKIND

Genesis 6:19 - 7:23

God had said that He would judge the earth because of its very wicked deeds and thoughts, but would spare through the ark, righteous Noah and his family. Read now to see if God actually carried out these plans:

A. The Ark Prepared: Read Genesis 6:19-22

1. What did Noah do concerning God's instructions to build the ark? Genesis 6:22

2. What did this require on his part? (See Hebrews 11:7)

3. How long was it after God decided to destroy the earth before the judgment actually came? Genesis 6:3b

4. What does this prove about God? (See 2 Peter 3:9b; 1 Peter 3:20a)

5. What was Noah doing during all this time?
 - a. 1 Peter 3:20b _____
 - b. 2 Peter 2:5 and *THINK!* _____
6. What evidently was the result of this latter activity? Genesis 7:1 (and *THINK!*)

7. What were the other people doing during this time? (See Matthew 24:38, 39a; Luke 17:26a, 27)

B. The Ark Entered: Read Genesis 7:1-9

1. How did Noah know when to go into the ark? Genesis 7:1

2. How many and what kinds of living creatures were taken into the ark? Genesis 7:2, 3
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

NOTE: For the distinction between clean and unclean animals, see Leviticus 11:1-31 and Deuteronomy 14:3-20
3. What was the purpose of taking animals into the ark? Genesis 7:3b

4. What else was to be taken into the ark? Genesis 6:21

- NOTE:** A noted scientist found that if half of the ark had been filled with food, there would still have been 175 cubic feet of space for each animal and man. (A 200-pound man requires only 15 cubic feet!)
5. How long before the flood came did God ask Noah and his family to go into the ark? Genesis 7:4

6. Did they do this when God commanded them to? Genesis 7:5

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7. What did this require on their part? (See Hebrews 11:7)

8. How did Noah know which animals to take into the ark? Genesis 6:20b, 7:15, 16a

9. What happened after all whom God had ordained had entered into the ark?
Genesis 7:16b _____

C The Flood Sent: Read Genesis 7:10-23

1. Did God actually send the judgment He had promised? Genesis 7:10

2. From what two sources did the waters come? Genesis 7:11b, c, 12a
a. _____ b. _____

NOTE: Geology, the science which deals with the physical earth, has found world-wide evidence of shifting land levels, which many scientists feel took place at this time.

3. How long did the rain last? Genesis 7:12, 17a

4. What happened to the ark as a result? Genesis 7:17b

5. How high did the waters go? Genesis 7:19, 20

6. Picture in your mind what must have taken place outside the ark as the waters began to rise higher and higher. Would you like to have been there then? _____

7. What happened on the earth as a result of the rising waters?
Genesis 7:21-23a, b

8. Who alone remained alive in all the earth? Genesis 7:23c

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What did Noah and his family have to do in order to be saved from the flood of waters? Why were others not saved?

2. Have I believed God enough to enter into His ark of safety, the Lord Jesus Christ, so that I may be saved from the judgment to come? (See John 3:16; Hebrews 9:27)

A NEW BEGINNING FOR MANKIND

Genesis 7:24 - 8:22, 9:8 - 17

Although most of the people on the earth perished during the flood, Noah and his family who had believed God enough to enter into the ark lived safely through this terrible judgment. See now what took place after the waters had destroyed life outside the ark:

A. Conditions on Earth After the Flood: Read Genesis 7:24-8:19

1. How long did the waters prevail (pre-VALE: gain ascendancy; win mastery, triumph) on the earth? Genesis 7:24

-
2. What was true during all this time? Genesis 8:1a

-
3. What five distinct things happened to bring an end to the flood? Genesis 8:1b-3a

a. 1b _____ b. 1c _____

c. 2a _____ d. 2b, c _____

e. 3a _____

NOTE: Geologists have found not just one, but at least two, great upheavals, the second of which doubtless took place at this time as the earth moved back into place to allow the waters to return to their former beds.

4. On what day of Noah's life had the flood begun? Genesis 7:11

-
5. Notice the progress of the ending of the flood: What took place

a. after 150 days? Genesis 8:3b _____

b. on the 17th day of the 7th month, which would be after 5 full months? Genesis 8:4_

c. on the first day of the 10th month, which would be after about 7 1/2 months?
Genesis 8:5 _____

d. after 40 more days?

(1) Genesis 8:6, 7 _____

(2) Genesis 8:8, 9 _____

e. after 7 more days? Genesis 8:10, 11 _____

f. after 7 more days? Genesis 8:12 _____

g. in Noah's 601st year, 1st month, 1st day? Genesis 8:13 _____

in the 2nd month, the 27th day? Genesis 8:14-17 _____

6. Subtract the figure in Genesis 7:11 from the one in Genesis 8:14 to find the total length of time Noah and his family and the animals were in the ark:

B. Noah's Actions After the Flood: Read Genesis 8:20

1. What did Noah do just as soon as he had left the ark? Genesis 8:20

-
2. Why do you suppose he did this? (*THINK!*)
-

C. God's Reaction to Noah's Offering: Read Genesis 8:21, 22, 9:8-17

1. What two things did the Lord promise when He smelled the sweet savor of Noah's offering?
 - a. Genesis 8:21a _____
 - b. Genesis 8:21b, 9:11 _____
2. What four sets of opposites did God promise would continue as long as the earth remains? Genesis 8:22
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
3. What sign did God give that He would keep this promise? Genesis 9:12-17

NOTE: Ethnologists have compiled at least 33 separate accounts of a great flood found in the histories and legends of various nations of the world. Most of them agree to a remarkable extent with the details of the Biblical account, thus affirming the truth of that account.

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. How do you think Noah and his family felt during all the time they were in the ark?
How should they have felt?

2. Am I going through a great "flood" right now? If I am God's own, what promises may I claim? (See Genesis 8:1a; Isaiah 43:2, 59:19b) When I have come safely through it, what should I do? (See Psalm 107:21, 22)

NEW TRIALS FOR MANKIND

Genesis 9:1 - 7, 18 - 29

Although the flood was now over, the trials of mankind were not. The flood seems to have had an effect on the earth itself, which made necessary some changes in the life of mankind afterwards. Read about these changes below:

A. God's Instructions After the Flood: Read Genesis 9:1-17

1. What did God want the animals to do after the flood? Genesis 8:17b

-
2. What did God tell Noah and his sons to do after the flood? Genesis 9:1, 7

-
3. What new relationship was to exist between men and the beasts, birds, fish and other creatures of earth? Genesis 9:2

-
4. Why would this be true? Genesis 9:2b, 3

-
5. Had this been so before? Genesis 1:29

NOTE: The fact that many men had a life span of more than 900 years before the flood without eating meat would seem to indicate that conditions on the earth were ideal for the survival of human beings. Vail believes there was a protective lens of ice around the earth which strained out the rays of the sun which cause decay and fermentation. The fact that now men are commanded to eat meat would seem to indicate that something happened to change these ideal conditions at the time of the flood. Vail believes the ring of ice melted and fell as water in some places, causing the flood, and as ice in other places, causing glaciers. In spite of their eating meat, notice as you study the following lesson what happened to the average life span during the 200 years immediately following the flood.

6. What one part of the animal must they not eat, and why? Genesis 9:4

NOTE: This is a fact of medical science which, although it was recorded in the Bible here and in Leviticus 17:11 and Deuteronomy 12:23, was not discovered by medical men until very recently. One of the two major types of blood vessels was named the artery (AR-ter-i) because it was always empty when examined by medical men after the death of the patient, and they thought that it carried air to the body, and that air was the life of the being.

7. Who was now to punish man for the sin of murder? Genesis 9:6

-
8. Who had previously done this? Genesis 4:9-12

NOTE: Notice that governments, not individuals, were to carry out this punishment (See Exodus 21:23, 24; Romans 13). Thus was instituted the age of human government, which continues to this day. For the ending of this age, and the beginning of the next, (See Revelation 19:6-20:6)..

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B. Noah's Behavior After the Flood: Read Genesis 9:18-21

1. What did Noah begin to do after the flood? Genesis 9:20

NOTE: A husbandman is a farmer; a tiller of the ground.

2. What two shameful things happened to him as a result of this? Genesis 9:21

a. _____

b. _____

NOTE: Most Bible scholars agree that this decline in the morals of Noah must have been due either to his old age, or to changed conditions upon the earth at this time. It is entirely possible that there had been no fermentation upon the earth before the flood, and that its presence in the grape juice now caught Noah unawares.

C. The Behavior of Noah's Sons After the Flood: Read Genesis 9:22-29

1. Which of Noah's sons saw his pitiful condition and did nothing about it? Genesis 9:22

2. What was the name of this son's son? Genesis 9:22b

3. Which two sons covered their father, taking care not to sin while doing so? Genesis 9:23

4. When Noah realized what had happened, what did he do

a. to Canaan, the son of Ham? Genesis 9:25

NOTE: This would lead us to believe that Canaan in some way shared or even instigated the sin of his father.

b. to Shem and Japheth? Genesis 9:26, 27

5. What position would Canaan and his descendants have from now on? Genesis 9:25b, 26b, 27b

NOTE: Watch for indications of the fulfillment of this prophecy in your future studies.

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Do "good" people always avoid falling into great sins? (See Isaiah 53:6) What could Noah have done to avoid this terrible sin? (See Psalm 119:11; Proverbs 3:5, 6)

2. What is my attitude toward those who fall into sin: Do I ignore them, or revel in the fact that they have sinned? Or do I have compassion for them, and seek to help them, taking care that I myself do not sin in so doing?

THE GREAT DIVISION OF MANKIND

Genesis 10:1 – 11:9

Their future having been foretold by their father, the sons of Noah began to fulfill these predictions as their lives continued in the days following the flood. Read about these events as you study the following:

A. The Sons of Noah: Read Genesis 10:1

1. How many sons did Noah have? Genesis 10:1a _____ Name them:

2. What happened to them after the flood? Genesis 10:1b

B. The Descendant of Japheth: Read Genesis 10:2-5

1. How many sons did Japheth have? Genesis 10:2. Notice that they occupied the “Isles of the Gentiles”, Genesis 10:5. Look for similar expressions in Isaiah 11:11; 20:6; and Jeremiah 25:22, and notice that they include not only islands, but lands accessible by sea. Therefore, who in general was descended from Japheth? (*THINK!*)

C. The Descendants of Ham: Read Genesis 10:6-20

1. What son of Ham’s son, Cush, became very famous, and why? Genesis 10:8,9

2. What was the beginning of his kingdom? Genesis 10:10a

3. In what place did he live? Genesis 10:10b (Locate this place on a map)

4. What man went out of that land and built the city of Nineveh? Genesis 10:11 (Locate this on a map)

5. Pick out one name from Genesis 10:14 which sounds a bit similar to something related to the story of David and the giant:

6. Notice the descendants of Canaan, in Genesis 10:15-18. You will come across them again in your later study of the Bible.
7. What were the borders of the Canaanites’ territory? Genesis 10:19 (Locate this on a map)

8. What two very famous cities were within their territory? Genesis 10:19b

D. The Descendants of Shem: Read Genesis 10:21-32

1. With which of the descendants of Shem is his name especially linked at the beginning of the list of his descendants? Genesis 10:21a

2. What great event took place in the days of one of his sons? Genesis 10:25

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3. Where was their dwelling? Genesis 10:30 (Locate this on a map)

NOTE: It is generally agreed that the descendants of Japheth peopled Asia Minor and Europe; the Hamites peopled Africa; and the Shemites (or Semites) peopled the Near East.

E. The Behavior of Mankind After the Flood: Read Genesis 11:1-9

1. How were the people after Noah's day different from those of our day? Genesis 11:1

-
2. What did they decide to do? Genesis 11:4a

a. Build what two things? _____

b. Do what else? _____

3. Why did they want to do this? Genesis 11:4b

NOTE: Lest is a conjunction indicating for fear that; that...not.

4. Was this in keeping with the commandment God had given them? Genesis 9:1

-
5. Was this in accordance with God's purpose in making them in the first place? (See Revelation 4:11; 1 Corinthians 10:31)

-
6. What did God decide to do? Genesis 11:7

NOTE: Confound (kon-FOUND) means to throw into confusion.

7. What happened to all the people as a result? Genesis 11:8a

-
8. What happened to the plans which they had made? Genesis 11:8b
-

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What should the people who lived after Noah's day have considered before they planned what they would do?

-
2. Are my plans and actions based on God's commandments, or simply on my own desires? Will God have to defeat any of the plans I have made for my life? (See James 4:13-15)
-

THE EARLY LIFE OF ABRAM

Genesis 11:10 - 12:4

Most of those who lived during the 2,000 years of so covered by Genesis 1 - 11 had repeatedly rebelled against God in disobeying His direct commandments, thereby bringing God's punishments upon themselves. Only a few seemed to care about fulfilling the purpose for which God had created them. At the end of this time, God began a new method of dealing with mankind. Read now about the beginning of this new era:

A. The Descendants of Shem: Read Genesis 11:10-26

1. Fill in the following chart concerning the men listed in Genesis 11:

<i>Age at which son was born:</i>	<i>Number of years he lived afterwards:</i>	<i>Total Age:</i>
(add)		
a. Shem: vs. 10_____	vs. 11_____	_____
b. Arphaxad: vs.12_____	vs. 13_____	_____
c. Salah: vs. 14_____	vs. 15_____	_____
d. Eber: vs. 16_____	vs. 17_____	_____
e. Peleg: vs. 18_____	vs. 19_____	_____
f. Reu: vs. 20_____	vs. 21_____	_____
g. Serug: vs. 22_____	vs. 23_____	_____
h. Nahor: vs.24_____	vs.25_____	_____

2. How did the length of their lives compare with that of their ancestors?
(See Genesis 5:4-31)_____

B. The Descendants of Terah: Read Genesis 11:27-32

1. What were the names of Terah's three son's? Genesis 11:26

2. What was the land of their birth? Genesis 11:28b

3. What two things did Haran do there? Genesis 11:27b, 28a

4. What did Abram and Nahor do? Genesis 11:29

5. What problem did Abram and Sarai have? Genesis 11:30

6. Whom did Terah take with him as he left Ur of the Chaldees? Genesis 11:31a

7. Where were they planning to go? Genesis 11:31b

8. How far did they get on their journey? Genesis 11:31c (Locate these two places on a map)

9. What happened after they had stopped to live there? Genesis 11:32b

10. How old was Terah when this happened? Genesis 11:32a

C. God's Message to Abram: Read Genesis 12:1-3

1. What three things had God told Abram to leave? Genesis 12:1a

2. Where was he to go? Genesis 12:1b _____
3. Where was Abram when he first received this call? (See Acts 7:2, 3)

4. What did God promise to do for Abram if he would obey this call? Genesis 12:2, 3
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
 - e. _____
 - f. _____
 - g. _____

NOTE: Genesis 12:3b is considered to contain an indirect reference to the coming of Jesus Christ. It was through Him, as Abram's seed, that the whole world would be blessed.

D. Abram's Response: Read Genesis 12:4

1. What did Abram do after he had received God's call? Genesis 12:4a

2. From Acts 7:2, 3 and Genesis 11:31, would you say that Abram obeyed God immediately? Be able to justify your answer.

3. How old was Abram when he made this move from Haran to Canaan? Genesis 12:4b_ _____
4. What would it require on his part to make such a move? Galatians 3:6; Hebrews 11:8_ _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Did it matter whether Abram obeyed God's call? What might he have missed out on if he had not obeyed? What might have been the effect on others?

2. Is God now calling me to leave all that I hold dear, and go wherever He shall lead me? (See Luke 9:23; 2 Corinthians 6:17, 18; Mark 1:17, 16:15). What is my response?
