

## How will we work through the book of Genesis?

The Grammatical Structure—*toledot* (“account,” “generations”)

Genesis 1:1-2:3 – Preface

Genesis 2:4-4:26 – Heavens and the Earth

Genesis 5:1-6:8 – Adam

Genesis 6:9-9:29 – Noah

Genesis 10:1-11:9 – Noah’s Sons

Genesis 11:10-11:26 – Shem

Genesis 11:27-25:11 – Terah

Genesis 25:12-18 – Ishmael

Genesis 25:19-35:29 – Isaac

Genesis 36:1-8; 36:9-37:1 – Esau

Genesis 37:2-50:26 – Jacob

The Character Movement

Genesis 1:1-2:3 – Preface

Genesis 2:4-5:32 – Adam to Noah

Genesis 5:28-11:32 – Noah to Abraham

Genesis 11:26-25:11 – Abraham to Isaac

Genesis 21:1-35:29 – Isaac to Jacob

Genesis 25:19-50:14 – Jacob to Judah/Joseph

Genesis 29:31-50:26 – Judah/Joseph

The Twofold Division

Genesis 1:1-11:32 – Life Before the Forefathers

Genesis 12:1-50:26 – The Lives of the Forefathers

---

## Resources Related to the Book of Genesis

“40 Questions about Creation and Evolution,” by Kenneth Keathley, Mark Rooker

“Genesis in Space and Time,” by Francis Schaeffer

“Coming to Grips with Genesis,” ed. by Terry Mortenson, Thane Ury

“Understanding Genesis,” by Jason Lisle

“Creation, Fall, Restoration,” by Andrew Kulikovsky

“Creation and Change,” by Douglas Kelly

“Three Views on Genesis: History, Fiction, or Neither,” ed. by Charles Halton

“Four Views on Creation, Evolution, and Intelligent Design,” ed. by James Stump

“Four Views on the Historical Adam,” ed. by Matthew Barrett

“Three Views on Christianity and Science,” ed. Paul Copan

Sunday, February 12, 2023

Danny Capon, *Pastor*

**ORIGINS—The Book of Genesis**

The Beginning and Meaning of Everything That Matters

No. 2 | Introduction, pt. 2

**Genesis 1:1**

## Introduction

**Genesis 1:1**

Who are you, and what does it mean to be you?

Origins...

A study of the book of Genesis...

**What is the book of Genesis?**

**How significant is the book of Genesis?**

**What are different approaches to the book of Genesis?**

*Approaches\**

- A Dismissive Approach
- Young-Earth Creationism
- Revelatory-Day Theory
- Gap Theory
- Local-Creation Theory
- Intermittent-Day Theory
- Day-Age Theory
- Analogical-Day Theory
- Literary Framework View
- Religion-Only Theory

*Approaches Specifically to  
the Origins of the Universe:*

- Young-Earth Creationism
- Old-Earth Creationism
- Evolutionary Creationism  
(Theistic Evolution)
- Intelligent Design

\*Adapted from *Christian Interpretations of Genesis 1* by Vern S. Poythress (2013)

*Our Approach*

Scripture interprets Scripture—“the analogy of faith”

## In the beginning...

ESV **Proverbs 8:22** "The LORD possessed me at **the beginning** of his work, the first of his acts of old. <sup>23</sup> Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before **the beginning** of the earth.

ESV **Isaiah 40:21** Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from **the beginning**? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

ESV **Matthew 19:4** He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from **the beginning** made them male and female... <sup>8</sup> He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from **the beginning** it was not so.

ESV **John 1:1** In **the beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in **the beginning** with God.

## ...God...

ESV **Job 38:4** "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. <sup>5</sup> Who determined its measurements- surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

ESV **Isaiah 48:12** "Listen to me, O Jacob, and Israel, whom I called! I am he; I am the first, and I am the last. <sup>13</sup> My hand laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand forth together.

ESV **Mark 13:19** For in those days there will be such tribulation as has not been from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, and never will be.

ESV **John 17:5** And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

## ...created...

ESV **Psalms 148:1** Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! <sup>2</sup> Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts! <sup>3</sup> Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars! <sup>4</sup> Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! <sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.

ESV **Isaiah 40:26** Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing. <sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

ESV **John 1:3** All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

ESV **Colossians 1:15** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities- all things were created through him and for him.

## ...the heavens and the earth.

ESV **Jeremiah 10:10** But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King. At his wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure his indignation. <sup>11</sup> Thus shall you say to them: "The gods who did not make the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens." <sup>12</sup> It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding stretched out the heavens.

ESV **Zechariah 12:1** The burden of the word of the LORD concerning Israel: Thus declares the LORD, who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the spirit of man within him:

ESV **Acts 14:15** "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them."

ESV **Hebrews 1:10** And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; <sup>11</sup> they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, <sup>12</sup> like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

Note: The same can be seen when Scripture references significant *people* (Adam, Eve, Noah, Abraham, etc.) or *events* ("the fall," the flood, etc.)

## We approach it...

as it is—the Bible, God's word

as interpreted carefully

as history

as a whole

"It is helpful... to distinguish between true communication and exhaustive communication. ... The Bible gives us true knowledge although not exhaustive knowledge. Man as a finite creature is incapable of handling exhaustive knowledge anyway. ... We must remember (the Bible's) purpose: It is God's message to fallen men. The Old Testament gave men what they needed from the Fall till the first coming of Christ. The Old and New Testaments together give all that men need from the Fall until the second coming of Christ. Many other details which we need are also given, but the main purpose is kept central and uncluttered. ... What the Bible tells us is propositional, factual and true truth, but what is given is in relation to men."

– Francis Schaeffer (*Genesis in Space and Time*, p. 35)