

Understanding Prophecy, History and the Methodology of God

# Genesis Study – Lessons 1-5

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# Introduction

## Objective

To understand the Book of Genesis as a foundation in order to be able to contextually interpret the rest of Scripture

## Resources

Just as the New Testament has 4 books, (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), on the life of Christ, this study will include four books, (Genesis, 1 Enoch, Jubilees and Jasher) to chart the beginning of creation to the Exodus.

## Four Principles to guide this study

- Prophecy – Compare the passages of scripture that reflect communications from God to humanity through prophecy
- History – The fulfillment of prophecy
- Methodology – God's system or methods used to fulfill His purpose and plan
- Typology – the study of types and symbols in scripture used by God to reveal His foreknowledge

God uses prophecy to distinguish Himself from the other gods.

Read the following

Psalms 89: 5-7 NRSV

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Isaiah 46: 5 NRSV

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Isaiah 41: 21-23 NRSV

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God foresaw the rebellion of heaven and earth and had a plan before He began the work of creation.

Read the following:

Psalms 139: 16 NRSV

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Jeremiah 1: 5 NRSV

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Isaiah 44:28-45, Isaiah 45:1-4 NRSV

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Because God is merciful He reveals His plans before they take place on earth.

Amos 3:7 NRSV

*“Surely the Lord God does nothing without revealing His secrets to His servants and prophets.”*

## Summary

In the Book of Genesis we begin to understand the eternal plan of God. We see His love and mercy in the events of human history as recorded for us when they happened. His methodology teaches us that free will did not alter the purpose of God, for us having been created in His image. And as prophecy was fulfilled then, future events will also unfold at the appointed time.

John 14:29 NRSV

*“And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.”*

## NOTES

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# Lesson 2

Read Genesis Chapter 1 and Jubilees Chapter 1 and 2

Genesis - The Book of beginnings...

## **Genesis 1 Summary**

Genesis Chapter 1:1 In the beginning... - the process of creation begins

Genesis Chapter 1:3 First Day – Light created

Genesis Chapter 1:6-8 Second Day – Sky/Firmament created

Genesis Chapter 1:9-13 Third Day – Dry land, plants, seas and trees created

Genesis Chapter 1:14-19 Fourth Day – Sun, moon and stars created

Genesis Chapter 1:20-23 Fifth Day – Sea creatures, creatures who fly created

Genesis Chapter 1:24-31 Sixth Day – Land animals, mankind, male and female

Jubilees - The Book of Divisions (also called the lesser Genesis)

## **Jubilees 1 Summary**

Moses receives the tables of the law and instruction on past and future history, which he is to inscribe in a book review, versus 1-4. Apostasy of Israel, versus 5-9. Captivity of Israel and Judah verses 10-13. Return of Judah, and rebuilding of the temple verses, 15-18.

Moses' prayer for Israel verses 19-21. God's promise to redeem and dwell with them verses 20-25, 28. Moses told to write down the future history of the world verses, 26. And an angel to write down the law verse, 27. This angel takes the heavenly chronological tablets to dictate the them from to Moses, verse 29.

Deuteronomy 31:24-29

*“When Moses had finished writing down in a book the words of this law to the very end, Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying, “Take this book of the law and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God; let it remain there as a witness against you. For I know well how rebellious and stubborn you are. If you already have been so rebellious toward the Lord while I am still alive among you, how much more after my death! <sup>28</sup> Assemble to me all the elders of your*

*tribes and your officials, so that I may recite these words in their hearing and call heaven and earth to witness against them. For I know that after my death you will surely act corruptly, turning aside from the way that I have commanded you. In time to come trouble will befall you, because you will do what is evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking him to anger through the work of your hands.”*

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### **God completed the work of creation in 6 days**

Read Genesis 1:31 and Jubilees 2:16

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God spoke everything into existence except for humankind.

Read Psalms 33:6-9 NRSV

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For the word of God to be established it must be on the testimony of at least two witnesses. How do we know that God made the heavens and the earth?

Job 38:4-7

*“Where were you when I laid the foundations of the world? Tell me if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements - surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid the cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together, and all the \*heavenly beings shouted for joy?”*

\*heavenly beings has also been translated, “sons of God”

Jubilees 2:3a

*“And immediately we saw His works, and praised Him, and lauded before Him on the account of all His works.”*

When God completed His work of creation, according to Jubilees, there were altogether 22 kinds that made up what had been created.

Read Jubilees 2:15

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The 22 kinds of creation were prophetic in that it pointed forward to redemption.

Read Jubilees 2:23

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There were two and twenty heads of mankind from Adam to Jacob (see Table 1) and two and twenty kinds or work were made until the seventh day.

Table 1

Genesis 5	Genesis 11	Genesis 21	Genesis 25
Adam	Shem	Isaac	Jacob
Seth	Arphaxad		
Enosh	Shelah		
Cainan	Eber		
Mahalalel	Peleg		
Jared	Reu		
Enoch	Serug		
Methuselah	Nahor		
Lamech	Terah		
Noah	Abram		

Jubilees 2:20

*“And I have chosen the seed of Jacob from among all that I have seen and have written him down as my firstborn son”*

God begins with Jacob not Adam

## Summary

Adam and Eve were the crowning act of creation, but creation itself pointed forward, revealing the prophecy of redemption. God foresaw the fall of Adam, He chose Jacob as his first born son and through His seed reconcile the world to Himself.

## NOTES

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# Lesson 3

Read Genesis 2:1-4 and Jubilees 2:16-33

God rested on the seventh day and declared that it would be a sign between Him and His people.

## Jubilees 2:31

*“And the Creator of all things blessed it, but he did not sanctify all peoples and nations to keep Sabbath thereon, but Israel alone: them alone he permitted to eat and drink and to keep Sabbath thereon on the earth.”*

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## Jubilees 2:19

*“And he said unto us; “Behold, I will separate unto Myself people from among all the peoples, and these will keep Sabbath day, and I will sanctify them unto Myself, and will bless them; as I have sanctified the Sabbath day and do sanctify it unto Myself, even so shall I bless them, and they will be my people and I shall be their God”*

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## Read Deuteronomy 32:8-9

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## Ezekiel 20:12

*“Moreover, I gave them my Sabbaths, as a sign between me and them, so that they might know that I the Lord sanctify them.”*

The Sabbath day was to be kept in heaven also.

## Jubilees 2:18

*“And all the angels of the presence in the angels of sanctification these two great classes - He has bidden us to keep Sabbath with him in heaven, and on earth.”*

Isaiah 66:22-23 NRSV

*“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your descendants and your name remain. From new moon to new moon and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, says the Lord.”*

When the Roman Emperor Constantine took control of the Church of Christ one of his first acts was to make Sunday the Christian’s Holy Day.

March 7, 321 A.D. Constantine decreed that dies Solis Invicti (Sun-day; or Day of Sol Invictis [Roman God of the Sun]) would be Roman Day of rest throughout the Roman Empire.

## Summary

The distinction between the people of the Most High God and all other people and nations on earth would be the day they worshipped Him. The Sabbath day would be a sign between Himself and them.

Ezekiel 20:20

*“...and hallow my Sabbaths that they may be a sign between me and you, so that you may know that I the Lord am your God.”*

Jubilees 2:17

*“And he gave us a great sign, the Sabbath day, that we should work six days, but keep Sabbath on the seventh day from all work.”*

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# Lesson 4

Read Genesis 3:1-24 and Jubilees 3:15-29

## Genesis 3:1

*“Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden’?”*

Adam and Eve were in the garden with the serpent for seven years when the serpent asked the question to Eve.

## Jubilees 3:17

*“And after the completion of the seven years, which he had completed there, seven years exactly and in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the serpent came and approached the woman, and the serpent said to the woman, ‘Hath God commanded you, saying, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’”*

## See Genesis 7:11

*“In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened.”*

God cursed the serpent.

## Genesis 3:14 NRSV

*“The Lord God said to the serpent ‘Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.’”*

The animals were no longer able to speak.

## Jubilees 3:28

*“And on that day was closed the mouth of all beasts, and of cattle, and of birds, and of whatever walks, and of whatever moves, so that they could no longer speak: for they had all spoken one with another with one lip and with one tongue.”*

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## Typology and Methodology in Prophecy

### Genesis 3:15

*"I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."*

### Jubilees 2:20

*"And I have chosen the seed of Jacob from among all that I have seen."*  
(The seed of Jacob is the seed of the woman, see Revelation 12)

### Read Numbers 21:4-9

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Verse 8

*"And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.'"*

The serpent on the pole pre-figured Christ.

### John 3:14-15

*"And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."*

General definition of *Enmity*: The state of feeling or being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something

Biblical definition of *Enmity*: Deep rooted hatred

### Isaiah 53:3 NCV

*"He was hated and rejected by people. He had much pain and suffering. People would not even look at him. He was hated, and we didn't even notice him."*

## Summary

The serpent in Genesis 3, that was the tempter which led to the fall of humanity, in Christ would be our source of healing and retortion. The hatred for the serpent typified the rejection of the Son of Man by the seed of the woman. (Southern Kingdom of Judah)

### 2 Corinthians 5:21

*“For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

## NOTES

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# Lesson 5

## Cain and Able

Read Genesis 4:1-16, Jasher 1:12-25 and Jubilees 4:1-8

### The Time of the Event

Read Jubilees 4:2

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First year of the third Jubilee: 99-105 A.M.

When God did not accept Cain's offering, he was angry and God came to Cain and reasoned with him.

Genesis 4:5-6

*"but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. <sup>6</sup> The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen."*

Cain's anger became jealousy against Abel and sought a reason to kill him.

Read Jasher 1:16

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What did Cain use as a pretext or reason to kill his brother?

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Jasher 1:18-20

*"And Cain approached his brother Abel in anger, and he said unto him, What is there between me and thee, that thou comest to dwell and bring thy flock to feed in my land? And Abel answered his brother Cain and said unto him, 'What is there between me and thee,*

*that thou shalt eat the flesh of my flock and clothe thyself with their wool? And now therefore, put off the wool of my sheep with which thou hast clothed thyself, and recompense me for their fruit and flesh which thou hast eaten, and when thou shalt have done this, I will then go from thy land as thou hast said?'''*

Cain asked Abel a question that was a future prophecy.

Jasher 1:21

*“And Cain said to his brother Abel, ‘Surely if I slay thee this day, who will require thy blood from me?’”*

Read Jasher 1:22-23 for the answer to Cain’s question.

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After Cain killed Abel God asked him where was his brother.

Read Jasher 1:28-31 for both Cain’s answer and God’s response to his answer.

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Cain plead with God for mercy and it was granted to him.

Genesis 4:14-16

### **Typology in Genesis 4**

Cain killing Able because he spoke truth to him was a type or future representation of God’s people killing His prophets that were sent to them.

Matthew 23:29-34

*“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous,<sup>30</sup> and you say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our*

*ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’<sup>31</sup> Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets.<sup>32</sup> Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors.<sup>33</sup> You snakes, you brood of vipers! How can you escape the judgment of hell?<sup>[a]</sup><sup>34</sup> For this reason I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town”*

The retribution for the killing of Able as well as the prophets who Abel symbolized would take place with the destruction of Jerusalem.

#### Matthew 23:35-37

*“...so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly I tell you, all this will come upon this generation.”*

## Summary

Abel’s cry for vengeance was righteous and just. Though it would not be fully responded to by God at the time of his death, Abel’s plea would not go unanswered. Jesus declared that his generation would reap what they and their ancestors had sown in the killing of God’s prophets. When Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D., the words of Paul came to pass. Be not deceived God is not mocked. Whatever s man soweth that shall he also reap.

## NOTES

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