

# **GENESIS**

### Genesis 1-11 (God and all of Creation)

**Key Themes:** Big Questions: Is there a God? Where does the world come from? Why is creation beautiful and orderly, yet messed up? Does the world have a purpose? Do I have a purpose?

<u>Major Biblical Themes Introduced:</u> Monotheism, Creator God, the Word of God, Imago dei, sin, Satan, God's justice and mercy, God's plan for redemption, blessing.

<u>The Need for Jesus:</u> Adam is portrayed as a King-Priest. He failed. The world needs a better King-Priest, and humanity needs a better head. Noah is the Savior of the world, yet He failed in a garden the same way Adam did. We need a better Savior. We need someone who will crush the serpent and reverse the curse. We need Jesus.

Key Verses: Genesis 1:28; Genesis 3:15; Genesis 6:5

**Key Takeaway:** The Bible is presenting a worldview that is radically different to the way that fallen men view the world. We all need to have our minds renewed and conformed to view the world the way the Bible tells us to.

# Genesis 12-50 (God and One Chosen Family)

**Key Themes:** One Chosen Family: The Bible quickly zooms in and focuses on one family. This sets the stage for the rest of the Bible. From Abraham comes Israel, David, and Jesus!

<u>Land, Seed, and Blessing:</u> These three words provide a comprehensive summary of God's plan for this family. And the blessing is not just meant for the family, the way God plans to bless them will make them a blessing to all the nations of the earth.

<u>The Gospel:</u> You will notice fairly quickly that this family is pretty messed up. So why did God choose them? Because God's means of salvation has been by grace through faith since the beginning (Gal 3:7-8)!

**Key Verses:** Genesis 12:1-3; Genesis 50:20

**Key Takeaway:** Genesis preaches the gospel. Abraham was chosen by grace through faith, as are all of his spiritual children.

## **Exodus**

### **Exodus 1-18 (A Nation Rescued)**

**Key Themes:** The Faithfulness of God: In the first few verses we see that God has kept His promise and made a great nation out of Israel. Then we see His miraculous power as He works to rescue them from slavery and deliver them into a land flowing with milk and honey.

<u>The opposition of Egypt:</u> Egypt is the most powerful nation in the world, but Egypt's king and gods are no match for the one true God. God uses them to display His glory.

<u>The opposition of Israel:</u> Israel is barely out of Egypt before they start complaining about being hungry and tired and missing the good old days in slavery (Exodus 16:2-3).

<u>The foreshadowing of the gospel:</u> Reading Exodus on this side of the cross enables us to see all sorts of things that foreshadow the gospel: namely how Moses points to Jesus, how God judges those who oppose Him, and how the exodus from physical slavery in Egypt points to the Exodus from spirtual slavery to sin (hence the Passover meal turning into the Lord's Supper).

Key Verses: Exodus 1:7; Exodus 3:14

**Key Takeaway:** God is mighty to save, even when we are not worth saving.

#### **Exodus 19-40 (A Nation Established)**

**Key Themes:** Covenant Made: In the second half of the book God reveals His law to Moses. The summary of the law is the Ten Commandments. Laws also include instructions for the tabernacle and entering the land.

<u>Covenant Broken:</u> The Israelites agree to keep the covenant, but they break it before Moses even comes down from the mountain. Moses throws the tablets down to signify the breaking of the covenant.

<u>Covenant Renewed:</u> Moses intercedes. God relents, shows him His glory, reveals His character, and writes the laws again (which signifies that the Covenant has been renewed).

**Key Verses:** Exodus 19:6; Exodus 34:5-7

**Key Takeaway:** The cross is the only way. God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but will by no means clear the guilty? How can this be true? Jesus. The cross of Christ is the only way God can be both just and the Justifier.