

Studies in Genesis  
Introduction and verse 1

**Preparation:** Rules of Interpretation/Application

1. What does the text \_\_\_\_\_?
2. What did the text \_\_\_\_\_?
3. What does the text \_\_\_\_\_?

**Etymology:**

In Hebrew, the title is taken from the first word of the text, "bereshith," and means \_\_\_\_\_.

The English word "Genesis" comes by way of the Latin, "*Incipit Liber Bresith id est Genesis*), translated or transliterated from the Greek LXX, "Genesis." It means "\_\_\_\_\_."

There are at least 14 identifiable origins:

1. The origin of the \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ (space, time, matter).  
Note: Every other \_\_\_\_\_ begins with matter and energy \_\_\_\_\_ in existence. Genesis gives us the account of their creation.
2. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The origin of the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.
11. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.
12. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.

13. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.
14. The origin of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Authorship:**

The text itself does not give us the name of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Higher Criticism (Liberal view) – There was no \_\_\_\_\_ author but many authors and editors. Several writers from the time of Hezekiah to Ezra (850 B. C. to 440 B. C.) compiled old \_\_\_\_\_ and traditions verbally transmitted by, not only the Jews, but Egyptians, Babylonians, and others. They were then placed in a book and circulated with the story that they were written by \_\_\_\_\_ to add authority to them. This is called the “\_\_\_\_\_ Hypothesis.” It is also known as the “\_\_\_\_\_ Hypothesis” standing for the mysterious Jehovist document, the Elohist document, the Deuteronomist document, and finally, the Priestly document.

Why is this important? It comes from an \_\_\_\_\_ position and is the current position of most liberal theological colleges and seminaries. Certain scholars were convinced that man had not \_\_\_\_\_ to the state of written language found in Genesis until much later given that such writing was unknown in that time period. It has since been \_\_\_\_\_ archeologically that writing was widely practiced and found in the current form that we find in the book of Genesis (5-6000 B.C). However, even with this evidence the world of liberal academics continues to teach this \_\_\_\_\_ hypothesis because of its evolutionary connection and sinful \_\_\_\_\_.

Textual Criticism: (Conservative) The author is \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus himself ascribed the writings of the Law to Moses in Luke 24:27 and 44. See also Luke 2:22, 16:29, 20:28, and Mark 7:10.

**Date of writing:** Sometime between \_\_\_\_\_ B.C and \_\_\_\_\_ B.C.  
Between the time Moses led the Israelites out of \_\_\_\_\_ and the time of his \_\_\_\_\_.

The Jewish calendar is based on the date of creation. Currently (2023) =  
The year \_\_\_\_\_.

**Literary placement:**

Location within the canon: Genesis is the first book in a grouping of five called the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_ by the Jews.

It was later called the \_\_\_\_\_ by the Greeks meaning \_\_\_\_\_.

**Literary divisions:** "Toledoth" = " \_\_\_\_\_ " or "account of."

The common divisions of Genesis are marked by the phrase, "These are the \_\_\_\_\_ of..."

Markers: Generations of...

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ (2:4).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (5:1).
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (6:9).
4. The sons of Noah, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and Jephthah (10:1).
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (11:10).
6. \_\_\_\_\_ (11:27).
7. \_\_\_\_\_ (25:12).
8. \_\_\_\_\_ (25:19)
9. \_\_\_\_\_ (36:1). (Pre-Seir)
10. \_\_\_\_\_ (36:9). (Post-Seir)
11. \_\_\_\_\_ (37:2).

The Book of Genesis is divided into \_\_\_\_\_ parts: Chapters \_\_\_\_\_ and Chpts. \_\_\_\_\_.

## Interpretation: Biblical Hermeneutics

Allegorical = symbolic story expressing common experience.

E.g.

\_\_\_\_\_ was not a real person. He is a symbol of humanity.

The \_\_\_\_\_ was not an actual event but the classic struggle between social good and evil.

Myth =

A myth is a \_\_\_\_\_ that comes from an ancient culture and often includes \_\_\_\_\_ elements. These elements may be anything from talking animals, to people with superhuman powers to the interference of gods and goddesses in human affairs.

Myths traditionally were created to explain the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world or of belief systems, practices, or natural occurrences in the location of that culture.

Most myths are set in a time before recorded \_\_\_\_\_ or exist somehow \_\_\_\_\_ of time (e.g., "once upon a time" is a frequent opening line for myths in that it indicates a distant past without specifying when that past could have occurred). Though myths do not necessarily contain any "\_\_\_\_\_", they often display the \_\_\_\_\_ and values of the culture from which the myth came.

**Compilation:** How did Moses receive the information in Genesis?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ revelation (Cf. Ex. 19/20)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Ex. 24:4)
3. Mediated by \_\_\_\_\_ (Gal. 3:19).

**What is missing?** = A \_\_\_\_\_ or an explanation of where God comes from.

**Main Purpose of the Book:**

1. To identify \_\_\_\_\_ as the Creator but also a God who desires a \_\_\_\_\_ with His creation.
2. To identify the cause and continuation of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. To reveal how God chose a \_\_\_\_\_ for himself and out of that people a \_\_\_\_\_ which would bless the nations.

**What the Main Purpose is Not:**

1. It is not to teach \_\_\_\_\_: cosmology, astronomy, biology, or geology. But where it speaks to the subject, it is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. It is not to teach \_\_\_\_\_. But where it speaks to the subject, it is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It is not to teach \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. But where it speaks to those issues, it is \_\_\_\_\_.