

Equipped Through
Genesis: The Book of
Beginnings

Version 1.1

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Equipped Through **Genesis: The Book of Beginnings**

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the memory of
Henry M. Morris Ph.D., LL.D., Litt.D.
1918-2006

President Emeritus and Co-Founder, Institute for Creation
Research;
Co-Founder, Creation Research Society and Christian Heritage
College (now San Diego Christian College)

Beginning with a small Bible study in his home, Dr. Morris went on to become known as the Father of the modern creation movement. Through his faith and writings, I discovered that the Bible can be fully trusted in every area of which it speaks, from the beginning of all things in Genesis, to the culmination of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Revelation. God's Word is the standard to which all the ideas and traditions of mankind in every area of faith and education must conform.

*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.
Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone
who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.
But do this with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15)*

Larry Neighbors

Acknowledgement

This manual was created by a team of volunteer writers, advisors, editors, illustrators, technical consultants and usability testers who sacrificially contributed their unique skills, gifts and talents. We at EGI extend our thanks to all of them and their families who offered support while they volunteered their time and services.

Thanks are also extended to those who have prayed for this writing project. It has taken many, many hours of writing, editing and perfecting to get to the place of publication. Most of all, we thank the Holy Spirit for His guidance on this very important subject.

Introduction

Of all the books ever written, only one explains how the universe and all life came into being. That book is Genesis, the first book of the Bible. The first words of this book – *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”* – form the only true and rational basis for a person’s view of the world in which we live. Any philosophy, religion or teaching that attempts to explain how the universe came into existence apart from creation by the one true God will lead people away from truth and into error.

Genesis: The Book of Beginnings was primarily written to show that God, the all powerful Creator, desires to have a personal relationship with the reader of this book. Only Christianity offers this hope to mankind. A secondary purpose for writing this manual is to lead a new believer in Christ into understanding the basic Biblical truths of creation.

Genesis provides the reader with foundational truths relating to the origin of mankind, the history of the earth and the essential beliefs of the Christian faith. Some of these truths are:

- Special creation of the entire universe by God’s spoken Word
- The fall of man and the entrance of suffering into what was a perfect creation
- The worldwide Flood of Noah as a judgment of God upon the disobedience of mankind
- God’s choosing and setting apart a special people through whom He would send His Son, Jesus Christ. He was sent into the world as the Savior of mankind to all who would believe in Him.

The accuracy, reliability and authority of Scripture, as well as understanding the character of God and His purposes for mankind, depend upon a proper understanding of the book of Genesis.

Another goal of this manual is to establish the fact that there is no conflict between true science and the Bible. The Science and the Bible section will challenge traditional beliefs concerning evolution.

**There is no conflict
between true science
and the Bible.**

The teachings of evolution have done great harm to the faith of many people.

- Evolution teaches that the universe and mankind are merely the end result of time and random chance over a long period of time. According to that teaching, everything that people can see and experience in the world around them is due to accidental causes. **This is a false teaching without hope and is based upon a poor understanding of how true science works.**
- True science fits perfectly within the general framework of a special and recent creation, the fall of man and the worldwide Flood of Noah.
- Evolution is a theory not supported by fact.

Anyone who has been trying to force the Bible to fit within an evolutionary framework will find it to be unnecessary to do so.


A. Overview of the manual's content

This manual is structured to provide lesson content in an easily understood format. Each lesson contains the following sections:

1. Objectives

The objectives for each lesson are written to explain to the student the basic things that will be studied during the lesson. For best results, the student is encouraged to spend time carefully reading the lesson, the Bible verses included with the lesson and to participate in class discussions.

2. Key Verse

The key verse sets a Scriptural foundation for the lesson. The key verse is indicated by a picture of a key. 



3. Bible quotes

The English version of this manual uses the New International Version of the Bible. If you have a different Bible translation, read it too. You will gain more understanding from reading several translations of the Bible.

Bible quotations will look like this:

*²²The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.
(2 Timothy 4:22)*

In this reference, “2 Timothy” refers to a book in the New Testament of the Bible, the “4” refers to the fourth chapter in 2 Timothy and the “:22” refers to a verse found in that chapter.

When explaining a topic, sometimes additional reference verses are given. They are noted as “ Read” or as “ See also.” These verses may be read during class or after.

4. Tables

Tables are used in this manual because they have proven to be an easy way to view and understand long lists of information. Tables are numbered using first the lesson number, then the order of appearance in the lesson.

Table 0.1 Example of a table

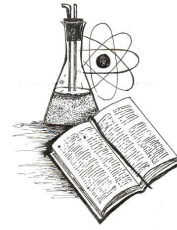
	Example
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5. Diagrams

Diagrams are drawings or illustrations that represent a concept. Diagrams are numbered with the lesson number and then the order of appearance in the lesson.

6. Science and the Bible

Each lesson contains a section called “Science and the Bible.” This section is identified in each lesson by this picture. The purpose of the “Science and the Bible” section is to establish the fact that there is no conflict between true science and the Bible. This section is written to prevent a believer from falling into error by believing the false teaching of evolution.



7. Activity assignments

The last part of the lesson contains two kinds of activities – one to be done in class led by the teacher, and one to be done by each individual student outside of class.

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

This activity is to be led by the teacher and discussed in class. The symbol used in this section is a heart which symbolizes the discussion of the central truths being taught. These discussion points and questions will help students learn and understand the lesson content.

Application

This activity is to be done by the student outside of class. The symbol of a pen is to encourage students to write down thoughts and ideas for future use. Each student may do these activities by themselves or in a small work group with other students. These activities stimulate the student to implement truths learned in class in their personal life.

8. Important words – Glossary

There are important words and phrases that appear in the lessons which may need to be defined. The definitions of these words appear in Appendix 1, Glossary, at the back of this manual. The first time a glossary word appears in a lesson, it will be underlined. For example, the word evolution is an important word and appears in the Glossary.

9. Appendices

Each appendix contains additional material for students who wish to know more about a subject.

- **Appendix 1 – Glossary** – The glossary contains words that are defined for the students. They are usually key concepts or scientific words that may need to be explained more fully.
- **Appendix 2 – Bible Text of Genesis 1-12** – The Bible text for Genesis, chapters 1-12, is included for the students to read and study in case they do not have a Bible of their own.
- **Appendix 3 – Eternal Life With God Through Jesus** – This appendix gives a brief description of what a person needs to know about receiving the gift of eternal life through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- **Appendix 4 – Equippers Group International** – This appendix gives a brief explanation of EGI, the publisher of the Getting Equipped™ Series.

B. To the teacher

This manual was designed to be used in different learning environments. Teachers are encouraged to adapt a method of teaching to accommodate the unique needs of the students. Consider the local economic, religious and political situations, learning styles and culture of the students. Teachers are encouraged to make these truths relevant through their insights and life experiences. The power of God is present in both God's Word itself and the testimony of His believers.

The authors are aware that a Bible may not be available to all students in all learning environments. For this reason, we have included Appendix 2 – Bible Text of Genesis 1-12.

1. Preparing to teach the lessons

The teacher should prepare the lesson before class begins. A good teacher prepares a lesson as one making a soup: One starts with the liquid, adds ingredients, lets it simmer, tastes it and then adds

spices. Lessons that have been prepared well in advance allow the Holy Spirit time to add “spice” to the lesson. Always remember, the main ingredients in lesson preparation are study and prayer.

a. Study the lesson

1. Complete each lesson as if you were the student. Read through the lesson, looking up all the verses. Complete all activity assignments before preparing to teach your class.
2. Consider the special needs of your students. Anticipate possible problems or questions that may come up.
3. It is important that you have adequate time to teach the content of the lesson. Some difficult lessons could be divided into two class sessions.
4. Prioritize the truths in each lesson in the event that you run out of time. Ask yourself: If a student leaves the class with only three truths, what should they be? Prepare your lesson to assure that important areas are covered first.
5. Consider how you will use the Discussion Points/Questions in class. Leave enough time for them. Feel free to add discussion questions that would be helpful to your students. When thinking about these assignments, review the “Application” assignments from the previous week’s lesson.
6. Determine how you will organize the lesson. The presentation of the lesson’s content should be a blend of the following:
 - Review of previous lesson or lessons
 - Lecture that explains the key points of the lesson
 - Class discussion
7. Consider examples that are culturally relevant to your students. The author’s goal was to write **Genesis: The Book of Beginnings** without being specific to any one culture. We hope teachers will provide examples and illustrations that are meaningful to their students. Attempt to make these lessons more relevant through your insights and life experiences.

b. Pray

1. Pray specifically for the students who will attend your class. Pray that the Lord Jesus through the Holy Spirit will teach them what they need to know.
2. Ask Jesus what He wants you to learn from the material.
3. Ask Jesus to give you the wisdom to know what parts of the lesson should be emphasized in class.
4. Ask Jesus to give you examples of how these truths are relevant to you and those in your community.

2. Who should teach this manual?

A teacher is one of the instruments God uses to instruct His people. The following qualifications are to be used as guidelines. Ultimately, the Holy Spirit is the true teacher of His people. The teacher is one who:

- is a believer in Jesus as Savior. (See Appendix 3 – Eternal Life With God Through Jesus.)
- continually studies the Scriptures. Jesus calls His followers “disciples,” which literally means “learners.”
- is committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- teaches in such a way as to encourage students to be followers of Jesus and not followers of the teacher.
- presents the Scriptures accurately, never distorting them for personal reasons.
- depends on the Holy Spirit, the true teacher, to give insight and knowledge to the students.
- avoids pride in their own skills or accomplishments.
- encourages students to enter into a growing and personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- attempts to teach in a way that encourages students to teach others. Paul told Timothy:

²*And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. (2 Timothy 2:2)*

C. Recommended resources for further study

Internet web sites

www.icr.org
www.answersingenesis.com
www.creationresearch.org

Book list

The Genesis Record, Henry M. Morris (Baker Book House and Master Books, 1976).
The Biblical Basis for Modern Science, Henry M. Morris (Master Books, 2002).
Darwin on Trial, Phillip E. Johnson (Inter-Varsity Press, 1993).
After Eden, Henry Morris III, (Master Books, 2003)
Evolution: The Fossils Still Say No!, Duane T. Gish (Master Books, 1995).
The Evolution of a Creationist, Dr. Jobe Martin (Biblical Discipleship Publishers, 2002).

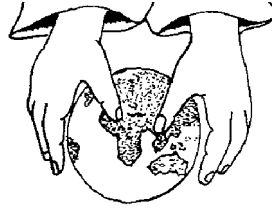
Lesson

1

IN THE BEGINNING GOD

Objectives

- To know that God created the universe
- To understand that God created all things through His spoken Word
- To increase faith in the accuracy of the historical events recorded in the book of Genesis
- To learn that creation is true and evolution is false



Key Verse

*¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
(Genesis 1:1)*

A. Genesis

What is Genesis? Genesis is the first book of the Bible. God's creation of the earth, the heavens, animal life and human beings are described in Genesis.

1. God is before all things and God is greater than all of creation

The key verse says that God created the heavens and the earth. This verse is at the foundation of the Christian faith. The writer of the book of Hebrews says that:

³By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of that which was visible. (Hebrews 11:3)

⁶Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. (Hebrews 11:6)

The Key Verse of this lesson is Genesis 1:1, the first verse in the Bible. This verse, which is confirmed throughout the Holy Scripture, refutes all of mankind's false belief systems. Examples of some of these false belief systems are shown in Table 1.1.

Biblical truths	False beliefs of evolution
There is a God.	Atheism <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The world view that says God does not exist, or holds to a world view without God.• Life and conduct without God.
God is eternal. <u>Matter</u> had a beginning and is therefore not eternal.	Materialism <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The <u>theory</u> that only material things make up reality.• Everything in the <u>universe</u> can be explained by natural laws.• A denial of the soul or spirit in man.

Table 1.1 Comparison of belief systems	
Biblical truths	False beliefs of evolution
<p>God is the measure of all things.</p> <p>Mankind is not the measure of all things.</p>	<p><u>Humanism</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A belief system or attitude of thought that says mankind and his personality are central to all things. • Mankind is the measure of all things, not God, and mankind is in control of his world. • Mankind, in himself, can find meaning in life without God. • The belief that the universe is self-existent and not created. • The belief that mankind is on earth as a result of evolution.
<p>God created all things complete and fully functioning.</p> <p>They did not evolve.</p>	<p><u>Evolution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A process involving change. • In biology, the belief that life forms have progressed upward from non-living chemicals, to simple life and then to all the life forms present on earth today. • An unguided process that explains life without God.

2. The foundation for all Scripture is built upon Genesis

The origin of major New Testament doctrines is found in Genesis. Genesis is quoted in other parts of the Bible more than any other book of the Bible.

- Genesis is referred to over 200 times in the New Testament.
- Passages from Chapters 1 through 11 alone are quoted over 100 times in the New Testament.¹

3. Genesis provides reliable information about origins

The book of Genesis provides the foundational information about the origin of all things. It is also this book that gives meaning to all things. No person was there to witness the creation of the world, but God chose to tell about the creation in Genesis. Without this information, nothing could be known about the origin of things. This account of the creation is established again in the book of Job where God begins asking Job a series of questions. One of the first questions can still be asked today, "Where were we when God created the world?"

¹Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm. He said:

*²"Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? ³Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me. ⁴"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand."
(Job 38:1-4)*

4. The only witness to creation is God

The Bible says that God created all things and explains why He chose to create.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:15-17)

¹¹You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. (Revelation 4:11)

These Scriptures tell that:

- God created all things in heaven and on earth. (Colossians 1:16)

**If we do not understand
Genesis, the first book
of the Bible,
how can we share
the rest of Scripture
with confidence?**

- God existed before all things were created. (Colossians 1:16)
- God created everything for Himself. (Colossians 1:16)
- God holds all things together by His powerful Word. (Colossians 1:17)
- God created all things by His will. (Revelation 4:11)
- Because God is creator, we are to honor and glorify Him. (Revelation 4:11)

5. Jesus confirms Genesis

Jesus believed and accepted as true the writings of Moses. The book of Genesis was written by Moses.

³¹He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." (Luke 16:31)

²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. (Luke 24:27)

6. God spoke all things into existence

God spoke into existence things that did not previously exist. All creation was spoken into being by God's spoken word.

³And God said, "Let there be light, and there was light." (Genesis 1:3)

This phrase, "and God said" (or "then God said") is used nine times in Genesis 1. Each time the phrase is used, God is speaking into existence a new part of His creation. Notice that in these verses each spoken word of God resulted in the immediate creation of that which God spoke.



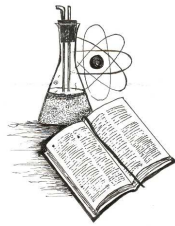
⁶By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. (Psalm 33:6)

⁹For he spoke and it came to be; he commanded and it stood firm. (Psalm 33:9)

The word of God commands all of nature and the creation instantly obeys. This can be seen in the account of Jesus on a boat with some of the disciples when they were caught in a violent storm.

³⁹He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. ⁴⁰He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" ⁴¹They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" (Mark 4:39-41)

B. Science and the Bible



For something to be considered scientific, it must be observed and able to be repeatedly tested in the present with the same results each time it is tested. Because creation and evolution were not observed by human observers and cannot be tested in the present, neither one fits the strict definition of being scientific. Each is a way of viewing or understanding the evidence which can

be observed today. For something to be considered a law of science, it must have no known exceptions.

The Law of Cause and Effect is an example of how true science is compatible with creation but is not compatible with evolution. This Law says that, "No effect can be greater than its cause." An example of this is the relationship of a painting to the artist. The painting did not paint itself, it took an artist to do that.

Therefore, the universe could not have created itself. It must have been created by something or someone greater than itself. God is greater

**Creation DOES NOT
violate the Law of
Cause and Effect.**

**Evolution DOES
violate this Law**

than the universe and He is the first “cause” of all things. Evolutionists believe that the universe created itself. Creation **does not violate** the Law of Cause and Effect. Evolution **does violate** this Law.

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. Read Genesis 1.
 - Discuss why the information about creation in Genesis is important.
 - Discuss ways in which you are comforted when you know that God is in control of everything.
 - Talk about some of the things in the world around you for which you can praise the God of creation.

Application

1. Read Genesis 1:1 through 2:3 again. This is the account of the events during the creation week. From the first day of creation, one can see God preparing a special place for mankind to live.
 - List the ways that the love of God can be seen in His provision and care for animal life and people.
 - Think of ways to share with someone the joy of being specially created by God instead of being just a product of evolution.
 - As you study other portions of the Bible, notice how the Bible reinforces Genesis to be the true story of the beginning of all things.
2. Do you believe in creation or evolution?

¹ Henry M. Morris, *The New Defenders Study Bible*, (World Publishing Inc., Nashville, TN, 2006 Edition), Appendix 11.

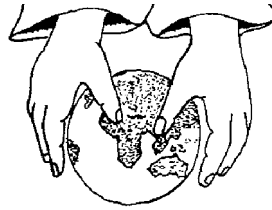
Lesson

2

THE ORDER OF EVENTS IN CREATION

Objectives

- To understand the order in which God created everything
- To know that God is One God who exists in three persons
- To learn what it means when God declared His entire creation “very good” when He had finished creating
- To understand that evolution is only a point of view and not an observation



Key Verse

³¹God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day. (Genesis 1:31)

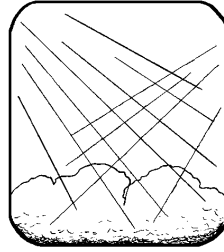
A. Everything created in a specific order

God created things in a specific order. Notice this order in Diagram 2.1 and the following text.

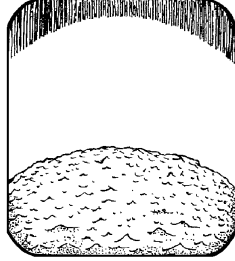
Diagram 2.1

**The Seven Days
of Creation**

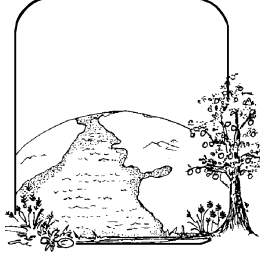
by Joanna Smith



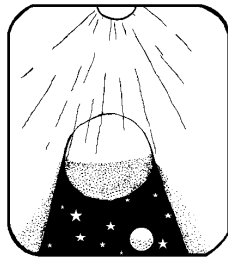
Day 1



Day 2



Day 3



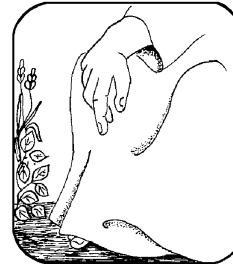
Day 4



Day 5



Day 6

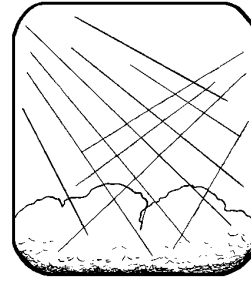


Day 7

Day 1 Genesis 1:1-5

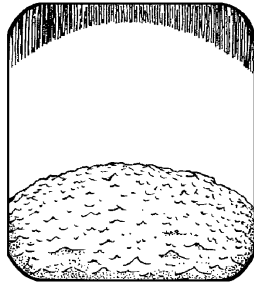
¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ²Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. ³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

⁵God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.



- Time, space and unformed matter (1:1-2)
- Light (1:3)
- Separation of light from dark (1:4)
- The light was given the name "day" and the darkness was given the name "night." (1:5)

Day 2 Genesis 1:6-8



⁶And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." ⁷So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. ⁸God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning – the second day.

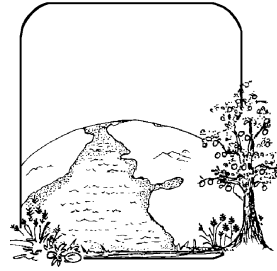
- The separation of the waters. The sky, which is the atmosphere of the earth, was in between the waters. (1:6-8)

Day 3 Genesis 1:9-13

⁹And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so.

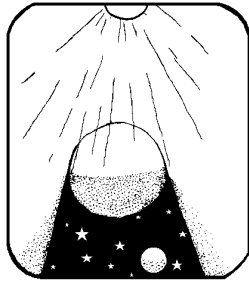
¹⁰God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the land produce

vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. ¹²The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening, and there was morning – the third day.



- Gathering of the waters below the sky into one place, forming the seas and the dry land of the earth (1:9-10)
- The creation of all land plants (1:11-13)

Day 4 Genesis 1:14-19



¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years,

¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day and the

lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars.

¹⁷God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, ¹⁸to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. ¹⁹And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the fourth day.

- The creation of the sun, moon and stars (1:14-19)

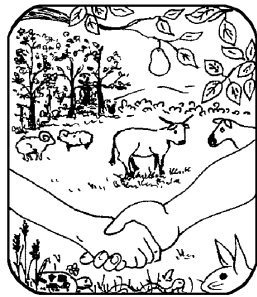
Day 5 Genesis 1:20-23

²⁰And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." ²¹So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." ²³And there was evening, and there was morning – the fifth day.



- The creation of all living creatures in the sea and the birds to fly in the expanse of the sky (1:20-23)

Day 6 Genesis 1:24-31



²⁴And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and

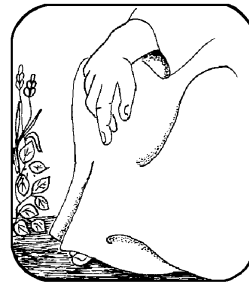
over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – give every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.

- The creation of all living creatures on the land (1:24-25)
- The creation of mankind – male and female (1:26-27)
- God declared all creation "very good" (1:31)

Day 7 Genesis 2:1-3

¹Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. ²By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.



- All creation was finished at the end of Day 6. God then rested from all His work of creating on Day 7. God did not create the universe over billions of years; He created all things in six, 24 hour days. (2:1-3)


B. Scriptures confirm the creation week

Exodus 20:8-11 and 31:12-18 confirm that God created all things in six, 24-hour days, with one day of rest.

⁸Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Exodus 20:8-11)

¹⁷... for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he abstained from work and rested. (Exodus 31:17)

Creation is not an ongoing process over long ages.

 Read Exodus 31:12-18 for context.

C. Different beliefs of origins

Creation and the false beliefs of evolution cannot co-exist. **They cannot both be true.** The writer of Hebrews says:

¹⁸... it is impossible for God to lie ... (Hebrews 6:18)

SINCE GOD CANNOT LIE, EVOLUTION MUST BE A LIE.

Table 2.1 compares the order of events in creation versus evolution.

Table 2.1 Order of events		
	Creation beliefs	False beliefs of evolution
1.	Matter created by God in the beginning	Matter existed in the beginning
2.	Earth before the sun and stars	Sun and stars before the earth
3.	Oceans before land	Land before oceans
4.	Light before the sun	The sun, the earth's first light
5.	Land plants, first created life forms	Marine organism, first evolved life form
6.	Fruit trees before fishes	Fishes before fruit trees

Table 2.1 Order of events		
	Creation beliefs	False beliefs of evolution
7.	Birds before insects	Insects before birds
8.	Land plants before the sun	Sun before land plants
9.	Birds before reptiles	Reptiles before birds
10.	Man created before woman	Woman evolved before man
11.	Man before rain	Rain before man
12.	Creation completed in six days	Evolution still continuing
13.	By man came death	By death came man
14.	Atmosphere between two waters	Atmosphere above the waters

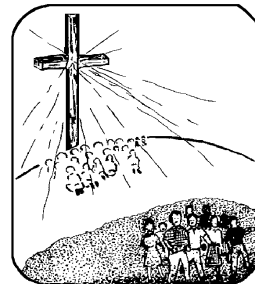
D. Light before the sun, moon and stars

God created light on Day 1. The sun, moon and stars were created on Day 4 (Genesis 1:14-19). The new heaven and earth are described in Revelation, the last book of the Bible. In eternity, the sun, moon and stars are no longer needed. God Himself provides the light.

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth has passed away ... ²³The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb [Jesus] is its lamp. (Revelation 21:1, 23)

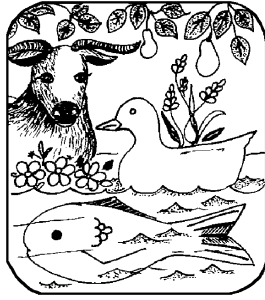
Paul explained to the Corinthians that God brings spiritual light to mankind's heart. Without God, the entire universe and the heart of mankind would be dark.

⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light



shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:4-6)

E. The first blessings of God



Notice that God's first blessing was given to all life in the sea and the birds of the earth. His second blessing was to mankind (male and female). In the second blessing, mankind was given the rule and authority over the animals.

²²*God blessed them [living creatures in the seas and birds] and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill*

the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." (Genesis 1:22)

²⁶*God blessed them [man and woman] and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." (Genesis 1:28)*

God cares for all life, but Jesus makes it clear that mankind is of greater value than any animal.

²²*Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. ²⁴Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!" (Luke 12:22-24)*

F. God, the Three in One, is the Creator

All three persons of God (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit) were involved in the creation. In Genesis 1:1, the Hebrew word for God is *Elohim*. This is a plural form of the word

“God.” Genesis 1:2 says that the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. Notice that in the following verses from the book of John, Jesus – the Son of God – was involved in creation along with the Father and the Spirit.

¹In the beginning was the Word [Jesus], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. (John 1:1-3)

¹⁴The Word [Jesus] became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

Even though God is one God, He exists in three persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Each has His own attributes as they relate to mankind.

- **God, the Father** – who is all powerful, all loving and all wise. God is Father to those who become His children through faith in Jesus. (Psalm 147:5, Jeremiah 31:3, Job 9:4, Romans 16:27)
- **God, the Son, Jesus Christ** – who became a man. Through His death and resurrection, He is Savior. (2 Timothy 1:10, Romans 6:4)
- **God, the Holy Spirit** – The Spirit of God, who regenerates, indwells, baptizes, energizes and sanctifies the believer. (Romans 8:11, 1 Corinthians 6:19, 12:13, 1 Peter 1:2, Acts 1:8)

The idea that God is three persons in one is sometimes hard to understand. Looking at something familiar that has three different parts making up the whole will help in understanding.

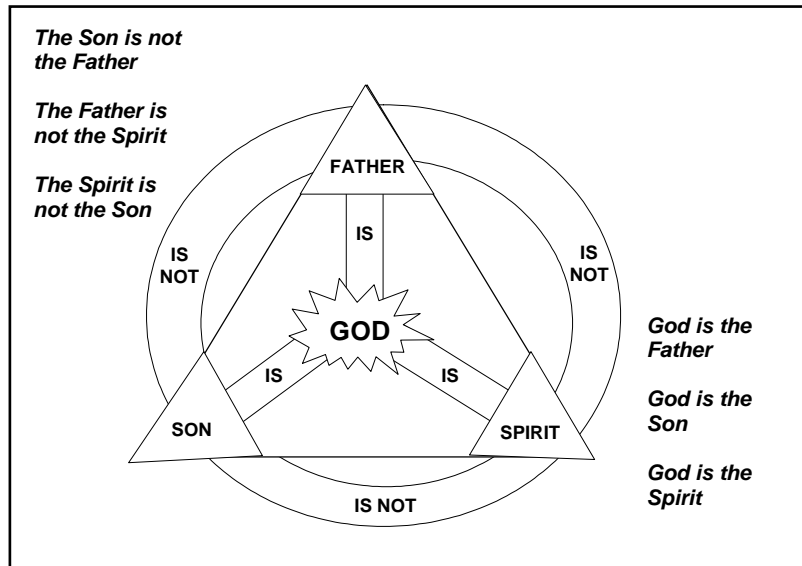
Example 1: The egg is a familiar object. It has three parts, and it takes all three parts to be a whole egg – the outer shell, the yellow yolk and the egg white. While each of these parts is an essential

part of the egg and make up the whole egg, each part has a specific purpose in the process of reproduction

Example 2: Another example is water. Water can be found in three forms: liquid, steam and ice. However, all of these forms are still made up of two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen. Each form has a different function, but each one is still basically water.

So it is with God. There are three different persons of God who make the whole. Diagram 2.1 illustrates the concept of God – the Three in One.

Diagram 2.1 God – the Three in One



G. The creation was called “very good”

After the creation was completed on the sixth day, God called everything “very good.”

³¹God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day. (Genesis 1:31)

There was complete harmony and peace in every area of creation. There was no suffering, no death, no struggle for existence, no pain, no unpleasant weather or disaster of any kind. It was only later, after mankind sinned, that death and suffering entered God's "very good" creation.

The Apostle John writes in the book of Revelation that there will be a new heaven and a new earth. God will dwell with His people there. The perfection of the original creation will be restored forever in the new heaven and the new earth.

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." (Revelation 21:1-4)

H. Science and the Bible



Genesis 1 says that every life form, whether plant or animal, was created by God "according to their various kinds." This means that **God created each type of life perfect and distinct from all other forms of life.**

In contrast, those who believe evolution say that all life forms present today arose gradually from simple life to complex, from molecules to a human being. They say that this process required countless small intermediate steps between the different life forms over a long period of time.

An example of simple life evolving to complex life would be for a fish, made perfectly for swimming in the water, to evolve into a reptile made perfectly for walking on land. There would have to be many changes for the fins of the fish to change into the legs of the reptile. There is **no scientific evidence** this ever happened. **There are no living forms of a creature half way between a fish and a reptile alive today.** There is not one single intermediate fossil example of this progression found in the rocks of the earth. Every living life form in the world today, or in the fossil record of the past, appears perfect and complete for life on earth. This is exactly what God says in Genesis.

**There
IS NO CONFLICT
between true science
and the Bible!**

**There
IS CONFLICT
between the false
science of evolution
and the Bible!**

If evolution cannot be observed in the fossil record of the past, or seen today in the world of the living, it is a belief system and not science. There **is no conflict** between true science and the Bible, but there **is conflict** between the false science of evolution and the Bible.

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. Review Table 2.1, Order of events. Discuss the differences you see between the order of events in creation and those claimed in evolution.
2. God blessed the animals and man. Discuss some examples of the blessings God has given His creation, including blessings in your own life.
3. How powerful is the spoken word of God?
4. Review Diagram 2.1, The Seven Days of Creation. Write beside each picture what was created on that day.

Application

1. Genesis 1:31 says the original creation was “very good.” God will restore this very good condition in the new heaven and the new earth for people who believe in Him and live for Him. This fact is a source of hope for all followers of Christ. Think of ways you can share this hope with someone who does not believe in Jesus. Write them on a piece of paper.
2. Look around at the world in which you live. Make a list of ways you see that God is active in caring for you and meeting your needs.
3. In the book of Psalms, God has given Scriptures that tell how much love He has for those who choose to worship Him.

- Can you imagine such love?

*“For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him.”
(Psalm 103:11)*

- There is, however, a distance greater than from earth to the most distant star.

“as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.” (Psalm 103:12)

- Can you imagine such forgiveness? Think about this love and forgiveness. We worship an awesome and loving creator and God.

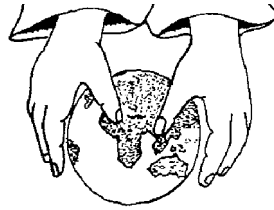
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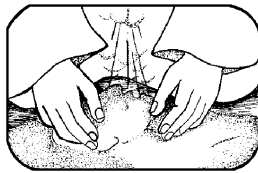
GOD'S PROVISION FOR MAN AND WOMAN

Objectives

- To understand that all life comes from God
- To see God's love for mankind in the Garden of Eden
- To understand the origin of work
- To understand the establishment of marriage



Key Verse



⁷The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. (Genesis 2:7)

A. God brings life to mankind

This key verse shows the life of God bringing life to mankind. The following points explain more fully the aspects of life that God gave to mankind, beginning with Adam.

1. **The source of life is Jesus.**

¹In the beginning was the Word [Jesus], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of men. (John 1:1-4)

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

2. **God continues to give life.**

¹⁴If it were his intention and he withdrew his spirit and breath, ¹⁵all mankind would perish together and man would return to the dust. (Job 34:14-15)

3. **God prepared a special place for the man to live.**

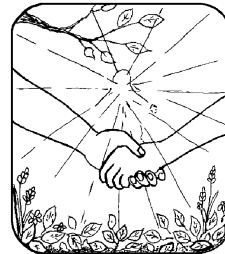
⁸Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. (Gen. 2:8)

4. **God gave him work to do.**

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. (Genesis 2:15)

5. **God provided companionship.**

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." (Genesis 2:18)



6. **God established marriage.**

²⁰... But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. ²³The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." ²⁴For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be

united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. ²⁵The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame. (Genesis 2:20-25)

7. **Jesus confirmed the origin of marriage as being the joining together of one man and one woman for life.**

⁵... Jesus replied. ⁶"But at the beginning of creation God `made them male and female.'⁷"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, ⁸and the two will become one flesh.'⁹ So they are no longer two, but one. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." (Mark 10:5-9)

8. **God did not allow same sex marriage and judged those who practiced it.**

²²Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable. (Leviticus 18:22)

¹³If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads. (Leviticus 20:13)

📖 See also Romans 1:18-32.

9. **Mankind was created to worship.**

People will worship and serve something or someone because God created them to worship and serve.

²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³"You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴"You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God ..." (Exodus 20:2-5)

²⁵They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator - who is forever praised. Amen. (Romans 1:25)

B. Science and the Bible



The creation account is compatible with a law of science called the Law of Biogenesis, which states that life can only come from life.

*⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of men.
(John 1:4)*

Evolution claims that life arose from non-living chemicals. As this has never been observed to happen, this statement is not scientific. **It is only the opinion of some people.**

Evolution violates the proven Law of Biogenesis. Creation agrees with this Law. Creation is again shown to agree with the actual observations of true science.

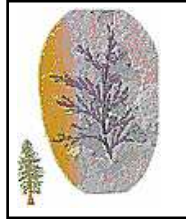
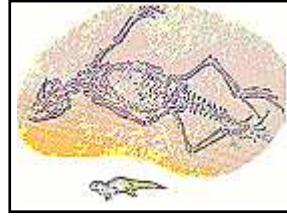
Creation is more scientific than evolution.

Evolution is just as much a belief system as creation.

In Mark 10:6, Jesus is referring to the creation week described in Genesis 1. He says mankind was there at the beginning. (See the Scripture in the previous point 7.)

Compare this to the evolution belief which proposes that all matter came into existence out of nothing. Evolutionists call this the "big bang" theory. They believe this occurred about 15-20 billion years ago. A basic belief of evolution is that man is supposed to have evolved recently, at the end of this evolutionary process. Since Jesus was present when man was created, and Jesus cannot lie; therefore, the "big bang" theory of evolution must be a lie.

Another truth from Scripture is that there was no rain in the original state of creation, when God called His creation “very good.” There would have been no violent or frightening weather events. We know from the fossil evidence that the earth at one time had a worldwide, tropical environment.



Even in the coldest climates of today, fossil remains of plants and animals are found that could only have lived in a mild climate. Evolution has no reasonable explanation for the dramatically different weather in the past. Mild and pleasant weather is consistent with Biblical creation.

⁴This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens -- ⁵and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. (Genesis 2:4-6)

The Bible tells about the “Flood of Noah” when the whole earth experienced a catastrophic flood (Genesis 6-9). This Flood will be discussed in more detail in Lesson 7.

The water cycle is the basis of the earth’s weather system from the end of the Flood of Noah to today. The distribution and circulation of the earth’s water and the patterns of climate and weather are mentioned in other passages of Scripture.

The following Diagrams 3.1 and 3.2 explain the flow of water on earth before and after the Flood of Noah.

Diagram 3.1 Pre-Flood water cycle ¹

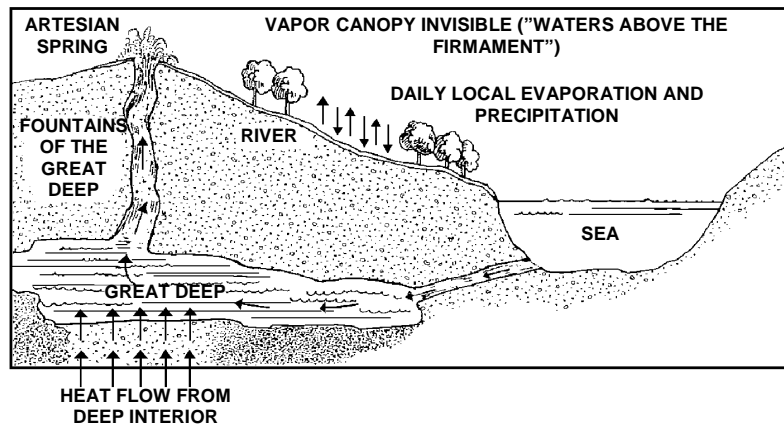
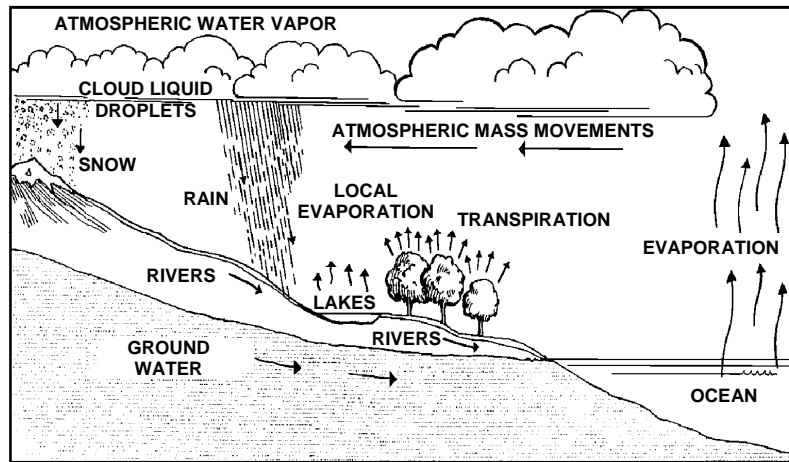


Diagram 3.2 Post-Flood water cycle of today ²



Because there had been no rainfall before the Flood, existing rivers must have been fed from deep underground reservoirs through springs. This flow was sustained through the heating of waters cycled through the network of pre-Flood seas.

The post-Flood weather patterns of today are described in the following Scriptures.

- **God promised after the Flood the earth would never be destroyed by water again and the seasons would never cease.**

²¹The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. ²²"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (Genesis 8:21-22)

¹¹I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: ¹³I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. ¹⁶Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth." ¹⁷So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth." (Genesis 9:11-17)

- **The weather today (rain and thunderstorms) is described in Job.**

²⁵When he established the force of the wind and measured out the waters ²⁶when he made a decree for the rain and a path for the thunderstorm, ²⁷then he looked at wisdom and appraised it; he confirmed it and tested it. (Job 28:25-27)

 See also Job 36:27-37:14.

- **Ocean currents are described.**

⁶You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: ⁷all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, ⁸the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the **paths of the seas**. (Psalm 8:6-8)

The Scripture “paths of the seas” led Matthew Maury to discover in the late 1800’s what we know as ocean currents. These currents influence the weather and the ocean shipping routes of today

- **Clouds, wind, thunder and flowing water are some of the present weather systems God uses to provide for life on earth.**

¹Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty. ²He wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent ³and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. ⁴He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants. ⁵He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved. ⁶You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. ⁷But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight; ⁸they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them. ⁹You set a boundary they cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth. ¹⁰He makes springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains. ¹¹They give water to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. ¹²The birds of the air nest by the waters; they sing among the branches. ¹³He waters the mountains from his upper chambers; the earth is satisfied by the fruit of his work. (Job 104:1-13)

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. Read Genesis 1 and 2 again. Can you picture God breathing life into the man to create life? Discuss what this would look like as it was happening.
2. What did God provide for the man and woman to eat?
3. What was the one thing man was told he should not do?
4. How do you see the love of God in creating the woman for the man?

Application

1. Read Colossians 3:23-24.

²³Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, ²⁴since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. (Colossians 3:23-24)

Think of ways to make your work a blessing to you and pleasing to God.

2. If you are married, talk to your spouse about ways to better serve one another.
3. If you are single, be aware that God is preparing a mate for you.

¹ Henry M. Morris, *The Biblical Basis for Modern Science*, (Master Books, Inc., Green Forest, Arkansas, 1984), page 263.

² *Ibid*, page 253.

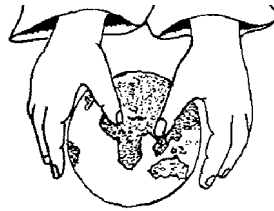
Lesson

4

THE ORIGIN OF EVIL AND THE FALL OF MANKIND

Objectives

- To understand the origin of evil
- To understand that the sin of Adam impacted the entire created universe
- To understand that all death and suffering came into the world through sin
- To learn that God promised the solution to sin in the Garden of Eden
- To understand how the first heavens and earth compare to the new heaven and the new earth in the book of Revelation



Key Verse

¹²Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned – ¹³for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come. ¹⁵But the gift

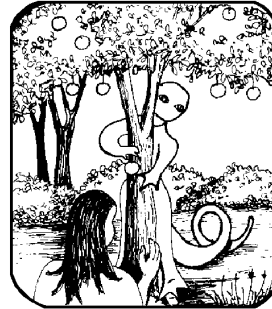
is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. ¹⁹**For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.** (Romans 5:12-19)

Only Biblical Christianity can explain what is wrong with mankind, the world and what can be done about it.

A. The entrance of sin into the world

In Genesis 2, God gave the man a specific command and explained the penalty for disobedience.

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Genesis 2:16-17)



In Genesis 3, the serpent [Satan] asks the woman about this command.

¹Now the serpent [Satan] was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the

woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" (Genesis 3:1)

Revelation 12:9 identifies this serpent as the devil, or Satan. It says he leads the whole world astray.

⁹The great dragon was hurled down – that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. (Revelation 12:9)

The Bible says that everything God created was “very good” (Genesis 1:31). Angels were a part of God’s “very good” creation. They were created to be God’s messengers and ministering spirits serving those who will inherit salvation. 📖 See Hebrews 1:14.

However, Satan is not “very good.” He is evil. So, the questions are: From where did Satan and evil come? When did evil enter God’s perfect creation? The following text and Scriptures answer these questions.

- Angels are created beings. (Job 38:7)
They were a part of God’s creation. The angels were created between Genesis 1:1 and 1:10, when God formed the dry land on the earth.
- All the angels shouted for joy. (Job 38:7)
They were there when the earth’s foundations were laid.

⁴“Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand, ⁵Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? ⁶On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone – ⁷while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?” (Job 38:4-7)

- **All angels were “very good” at this time.**
Therefore, Satan, who is called a fallen angel, must have become “not good” sometime between Genesis 1:31 and 3:1.
📖 See also Jude 6.

- Satan (also known as King of Tyre) is described as **“the model of perfection ... on the day he was created.”**

¹²“Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: `This is what the Sovereign LORD says:

“You were the **model of perfection**, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. ¹³... Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the **day you were created** they were prepared.” [Note: Satan was created, not born] (Ezekiel 28:12-13)

📖 See Ezekiel 28:12-19 for context.

- **Wickedness was found in Satan, not God.**
In Isaiah 14:12-15 he is described as saying, “**I will**” five times. As Satan begins his rebellion against God, he places his will above that of God.
- These Scriptures illustrate that Satan’s focus is on his will and not the will of God (Isaiah 14:14). He even said, “I will make myself like the Most High.” He wanted to be equal with or greater than God. No one or no thing can be greater than God. Satan then, exercising the free will given him by God, chose to rebel and to sin against God. He was removed from the presence of God in heaven and was cast to earth. He then approached the woman (who was later given the name Eve) to persuade her to join him in rebelling against the perfect will of God (Genesis 3:1).
- **Some angels abandoned their home with God in heaven and rebelled against God.**
These are “fallen angels” (called demons) who are under the control of the evil one, Satan. 📖 See Jude 6.

B. The pattern of temptation

The pattern of falling into sin is the same today as it was when the first sin was committed in the Garden of Eden. The pattern of the temptation to sin has not changed. Read the following Scriptures.

¹³When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. ¹⁵Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. (James 1:13-15)

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Genesis 2:16-17)

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" (Genesis 3:1)

²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden." (Genesis 3:2)

In Genesis 3, Satan begins his attack on the woman. He misquoted God's Word found in Genesis 2:16-17. By doing this, he casts doubt on both the Word of God and the goodness of God. In the following Scripture, notice that the woman was not completely familiar with God's Word because she added words that God did not say.

The primary defense we have against falling into error is being familiar with God's Word. The best way to recognize false teachings is to:

- Read God's Word (Scriptures)
- Meditate on God's Word
- Memorize God's Word

²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, **and you must not touch it**, or you will die.'" (Genesis 3:2-3)

It is very important to learn that being familiar with the Scriptures will enable one to be victorious over Satan's attempts to lead them into

sin. Jesus set an example when He used His knowledge of the written Scriptures to resist Satan (devil, tempter).

¹Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. ²After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." ⁴Jesus answered, "**It is written:** 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶"If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. **For it is written:** 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus answered him, "**It is also written:** 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! **For it is written:** 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him. (Matthew 4:1-11)

Satan continued his temptation to the woman by telling her that God is a liar. He said that she would not die if she ate of the forbidden tree. He then made her three promises if she would follow him into disobedience.

1. Her eyes will be opened.
2. She will be like God.
3. She will have knowledge of both good and evil.

⁴"You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.
⁵"For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
(Genesis 3:4-5)

The Bible says the woman "saw" the forbidden fruit. The word "saw" in the Hebrew language means "a long studied look." Her decision

to disobey God was based on her need to satisfy three desires identified in 1 John.

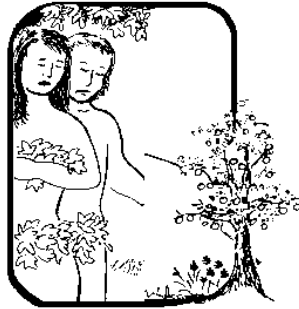
*¹⁵Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For everything in the world--the **cravings of sinful man**, the **lust of his eyes** and the **boasting of what he has and does**--comes not from the Father but from the world. (1 John 2:15-16)*

1. Cravings of sinful people – Her physical appetite
2. Lust of the eyes – To possess what she knew God said she should not have
3. Boasting of what they have and do – To gain extra wisdom that God had supposedly withheld from her

The basis of each of these desires was to be independent from God.

Then the woman ate the forbidden fruit and gave some to the man (Adam). We know from Genesis 2:16-17 that Adam had first received the command from God to not eat of the forbidden fruit.

C. The results of sin



In Genesis, the immediate results of sin are clearly understood.

⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. ⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." ¹¹And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" ¹²The man said, "The woman you put here with me-

she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."
(Genesis 3:7-12)

**Evolution says that by
death came man.**

**God tells us that by
man came death.**

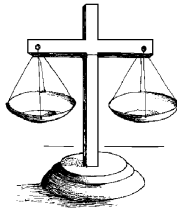
The man and the woman for the first time felt shame. They tried to cover their shame with fig leaves. They were afraid of God for the first time. They tried to run and hide from God instead of coming to Him for fellowship.

Verse 9 reveals an important part of God's character – He called out to the man. Mankind, in his now fallen and sinful condition, is powerless to reach out for God. No one can know God before receiving Jesus Christ as Savior. When God calls people to Jesus, through His Holy Spirit, they may respond to God's offer of salvation.

See Appendix 3, Eternal Life Through Jesus

📖 See Ephesians 1:4-10, 2:4-10 and Romans 5:6-11.

D. Judgment and punishment of sin



God judges and punishes sin. He pronounced a curse on the serpent, the woman and then the man, Adam.

¹⁴So the LORD God said to the **serpent**,
"Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

¹⁶To the **woman** he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

¹⁷To **Adam** he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,'

"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."
(Genesis 3:14-19)

Mentioned in the curses are:

- War
- Pain in childbirth
- Conflict between the man and the woman in marriage
- Work has become painful
- All people die

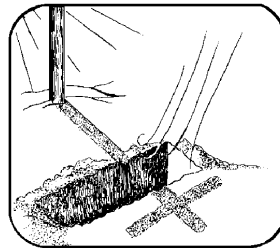
Before sin, there was no death or suffering of any kind. The earth was a paradise, perfect in every way. Revelation 21- 22 tells of a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. Revelation 22:3 gives the promise there will be no more curse. Every evil effect of the curse will be eternally removed and there will once again be unbroken fellowship with God.

E. Victory over sin

The promise of the gospel in Genesis 3:15 will become the believer's reality forever and ever. Even as God is explaining the curses that came into creation as a result of sin, verse 15 contains an important prophecy and a promise. This verse is called the "protevangelium," which means "the first gospel." He says that there will be enmity, or war, between Satan and God. This war will be fought between those who have an obedient faith in God and those who rebel against God. Satan will have his head crushed, which is a fatal injury. Jesus, during His crucifixion, would be injured on His heel as He was nailed to the cross. He would suffer greatly as He died upon the cross, but He would rise victorious from the dead three days later. The final victory of God over Satan is found in Revelation 20:1-10.

¹And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. ²He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. ³He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. ⁴I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. ⁵(The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years. ⁷When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth — Gog and Magog — to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. ⁹They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Revelation 20:1-10)

God is in control of history, Satan is not. This victory is made possible because Jesus, who knew no sin, became sin for everyone and died in their place on the cross. When people believe and accept Jesus as their personal Savior, they are empowered to live a life pleasing to God by the power of the Holy Spirit. Until the final victory revealed in Revelation, the



effects of sin and the curses of Genesis 3 remain a part of people's daily lives.

God makes it clear that all mankind, not just Adam and Eve, have been disobedient to God and deserve death. But Jesus took every person's sin upon himself as the only possible solution for sin. He who was "without sin" died so that anyone who believes in Him can have eternal life. 📖 See Romans 5:19 and 2 Corinthians 5:21.

Understanding the good news of the gospel depends on understanding the bad news explained in Genesis.

Understanding the good news of the gospel depends on understanding the bad news explained in Genesis.

The first bloodshed on earth was when God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife.

²¹The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. (Genesis 3:21)

It is here that God shows that the forgiveness of sin requires a death and the shedding of blood. The following Scriptures are examples of this Biblical principal.



¹¹For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life. (Leviticus 17:11)

²²In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. (Hebrews 9:22)

Jesus, the Creator and the Son of God, shed His blood on the cross to pay for people's sins. This was the perfect and final sacrifice required by God. No one can add anything to what Jesus did to pay for sins. However, there is a requirement to believe that He died for all sins and that He rose from the dead. The believer's life is now to be lived in loving obedience to Him, longing for His Second Coming and the end of the effects of the curse.

📖 See also Romans 6:1-11, 8:22, Galatians 5:24, Colossians 3:3 and 1 Peter 2:24.

6We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

F. Parallel themes of Genesis and Revelation

The word *Genesis* means “beginnings” This word is derived from the Greek Septuagint translation of the Hebrew word *toledoth*, which means generations. “Revelation” is from the Greek word *apokalupsis* and literally means an “unveiling” of something previously concealed.

The first chapters of Genesis describe a sinless world, made for mankind and placed under his dominion. Even though sin and the curse have intruded for a time, God cannot be defeated in His purpose, and all that God intended in the beginning will be ultimately accomplished. The earth must be restored to its original perfection and then continue forever. The last three chapters of Revelation outline the purging of sin from God’s redeemed creation.

The first book of the Bible (Genesis) and the last book of the Bible (Revelation) have many parallel themes. Tables 4.1 and 4.2 are provided to help compare the first and last books of the Bible.

- Table 4.1 Original world compared to eternal world ¹
- Table 4.2 Cursed world compared to redeemed world

Understanding God’s first creation in Genesis helps to understand God’s final creation in Revelation.

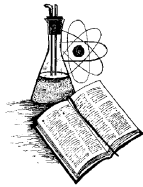
Table 4.1 Original world compared to eternal world	
Original (Genesis)	Eternal (Revelation)
Division of light and darkness (Genesis 1:4)	No night there (Revelation 21:25)
Rule of sun and moon (Genesis 1:16)	No need of sun or moon (Revelation 21:23)
First heavens and earth (Genesis 2:1-3)	New heaven and earth forever

Table 4.1 Original world compared to eternal world	
Original (Genesis)	Eternal (Revelation)
	(Revelation 21:1)
Man in a prepared garden (Genesis 2:8-9)	Man in a prepared city (Revelation 21:2)
River flowing out of Eden (Genesis 2:10)	River flowing from God's throne (Revelation 22:1)
Tree of life in the midst of the garden (Genesis 2:9)	Tree of life throughout the city (Revelation 22:2)
God walking in the garden (Genesis 3:8)	God dwelling with His people (Revelation 21:3)
Bride formed from her husband (Genesis 2:21-23)	Bride adorned for her husband (Christ and His Church) (Revelation 21:2)
Man in God's image Genesis 1:27	Man in God's presence Revelation 21:3

Table 4.2 compares the cursed world to the redeemed world.

Table 4.2 Cursed world compared to redeemed world	
Cursed (Genesis)	Redeemed (Revelation)
Cursed ground (Genesis 3:17)	No more curse (Revelation 22:3)
Daily sorrow (Genesis 3:17)	No more sorrow (Revelation 21:4)
Sweat on the face (Genesis 3:19)	No more tears (Revelation 21:4)
Thorns and thistles (Genesis 3:18)	No more pain (Revelation 21:4)
Returning to the dust (Genesis 3:19)	No more death (Revelation 21:4)
Kept from the tree of life (Genesis 3:24)	Access to the tree of life (Revelation 22:14)
Redeemer promised (Genesis 3:15)	Redemption accomplished (Revelation 5:9-10)
Evil continually (Genesis 6:5)	Nothing that defiles (Revelation 21:8, 27)

F. Science and the Bible



In Genesis 3:17, God cursed the ground. This is the same Hebrew word used in Genesis 1:1 for earth. God's curse affected the entire created universe, not just the ground where Adam was standing. This curse can be understood by a law of science called the Second Law of Thermodynamics, also called the Law of Increasing Entropy. This law of science states that all open systems, left to themselves, will go from order to disorder. They will decay, wear out and return to the basic elements of the earth. **There are no exceptions to this law.** Adding energy alone to the system will not bring about an increase in the order of complexity. We can see this law at work in our bodies and in our houses. We can care for our bodies and our houses as well as possible, but they eventually fall apart and are no longer useful.

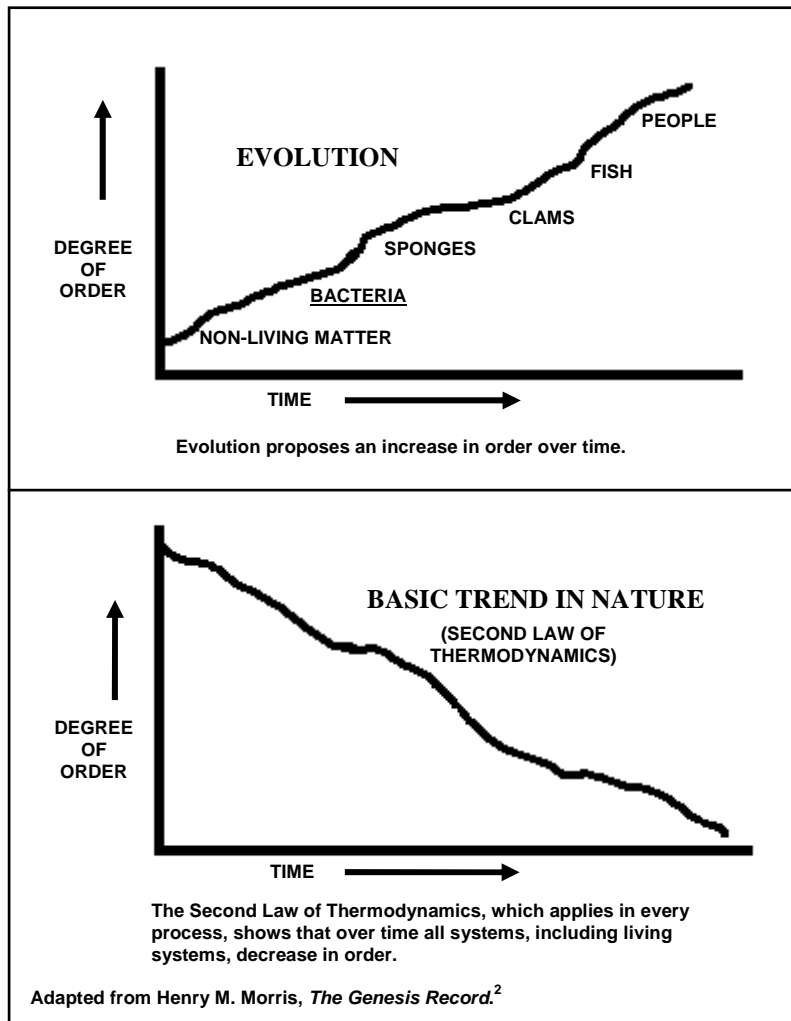
This proven law of science means that evolution is impossible. Evolutionists believe that non-living chemicals self organized themselves into living systems and these living systems, over time have become more and more complex until finally man was evolved. Time is the enemy of evolution. With more time comes more decay. See Diagram 4.1.

Every system we observe in the real world becomes less ordered and complex with time. Nothing can be observed to become more orderly as time passes. Not only does evolution contradict the clear teaching of God's Word, it violates the Second Law of Thermodynamics. The Bible and true science are both correct. Evolution is a lie. Further reading about the effects of the sin of Adam on creation can be found in the following Scriptures:

²¹For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²²For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:21-22)

📖 See also Romans 5:12-19, 8:18-23, and 1 Corinthians 15:45-49.

Diagram 4.1 Time is the enemy of evolution, not its hero



♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. Discuss some problems in your daily life that are a result of the curses found in the story of the fall of mankind.
2. How can you know that God and His goodness are greater than Satan and his evil?
3. Review Appendix 3. Describe the first time you were aware of God's calling you to Himself.
4. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. Every aspect of life is touched by the Second Law of Thermodynamics. List and discuss the hopes and promises you can find in this Scripture.

Application

1. Review Appendix 3 again. Reflect on your personal relationship with God. Have you accepted God's offer of eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ? If so, thank Him for your salvation. If not, pray for understanding of His love, mercy and forgiveness.
2. Read Psalm 102:25-27, Hebrews 1:10-12 and 2 Peter 3:3-13. Make a list of things you can think of that would be different in the new heaven and earth where all effects of sin and the curse have been removed.
3. As you study other portions of the Bible, notice how the Bible assumes Genesis to be the true story of the beginning of all things.

¹ Henry M. Morris, *The Genesis Record*, (Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1976), page 33.

² Henry M. Morris, *The Biblical Basis for Modern Science*, (Master Books, Inc. Green Forest, Arkansas, 3rd printing, August 2004), page 189.

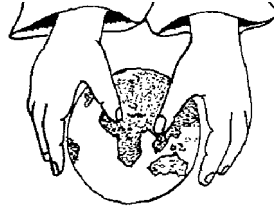
Lesson

5

CAIN AND ABEL

Objectives

- To see the effects of sin in the children of Adam and Eve
- To understand the faith that is pleasing to God
- To realize that the first civilization was not primitive, but very sophisticated
- To answer the question: "Where did Cain get his wife?"



Key Verse

⁴By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead. (Hebrews 11:4)

A. The lives of Cain and Abel

In Genesis 4:1-2, we are told of the births and lives of the first two sons of Adam and Eve: Cain and Abel. Abel worked by raising livestock while Cain raised crops. In verses 3-7, both Cain and Abel brought offerings to God, but God was not pleased with Cain's offering. Why was one offering pleasing to God and one was not?



When God killed the animal to provide coverings for Adam and Eve in Genesis 3, He introduced the principle of requiring blood to be shed as a covering (or sacrifice) for sin. Since Cain would have to ask his younger brother for one of his livestock each time he wanted to make a blood sacrifice, he may have become resentful towards his brother.

³In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. ⁴But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. ⁶Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? ⁷But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." (Genesis 4:3-7)

God was not pleased with Cain's offering or his growing hatred towards his brother. God was aware of the sinful thoughts of Cain and urged him to do what was right. Cain refused God. The result of his sinful attitude was that he murdered Abel, rather than doing what was right in the eyes of God.

⁸Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. (Genesis 4:8)

The following Scripture shows that God placed Cain under a curse for his actions.

⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" ¹⁰The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. ¹¹Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹²When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless

wanderer on the earth." ¹³Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is more than I can bear. ¹⁴Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." ¹⁵But the LORD said to him, "Not so; if anyone kills Cain, he will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. ¹⁶So Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden. (Genesis 4:9-16)

In Matthew 23:35, Jesus considers Abel to be righteous.

³⁵And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. (Matthew 23:35)

Jesus called Abel "a prophet from the beginning." This makes Abel the first in a long line of prophets that leads up to the time of Christ.

⁵⁰Therefore this generation will be held responsible for the blood of all the prophets that has been shed since the beginning of the world, ⁵¹from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah ... (Luke 11:50-51)

Hebrews 11 is called the "faith chapter" because of the listing of people considered faithful by God. Abel is the first name on the list.

⁴By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead. (Hebrews 11:4)

The writer of Hebrews tells about Abel's faith (Hebrews 11:4) and the faith God requires.

⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. (Hebrews 11:6)

The heart attitude of Cain is seen in 1 John.

¹¹This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. ¹²Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. ¹³Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him. (1 John 3:11-15)

The book of Jude is a warning against men who are in close association to the church but are evil as Cain was. Jude 11 says:

¹¹Woe to them! They have taken the way of Cain ... (Jude 11)

The way of Cain leads to death, the way of Abel leads to Jesus and eternal life.

To understand the profound evil of Cain, read the book of Jude and notice the sin and promised doom of men like Cain. The way of Cain leads to death, the way of Abel leads to Jesus and eternal life. There are tragic results of the enmity (or war) prophesied in Genesis 3:15. This tragedy is seen in the first two sons of Adam and Eve.

¹⁵And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel. (Genesis 3:15)

B. The accuracy of Genesis

In Genesis 4:17, there is a statement that has caused some people to question the accuracy of Genesis.

¹⁷Cain lay with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch. (Genesis 4:17)

Before this verse the only people mentioned were Adam, Eve, Cain and Abel, who was murdered. So where did Cain get a wife if these people were the only people on earth? The Bible gives several clues from where Cain's wife could have come.

*¹Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man."²Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. ³**In the course of time** Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. (Genesis 4:1-3)*

Genesis 4:1-2 tells about the births of Cain and Abel. Notice that there is an important phrase in verse 3, which begins by saying, "**in the course of time.**" This is the first time in Scripture there is a mention of the passing of any significant amount of time. It occurs after we are told of the births of Cain and Abel. During this passing of time, Adam and Eve were having children in accordance with God's command where they were told to:

²⁸... Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it ... (Genesis 1:28)

Adam and Eve must have had many children because Adam lived 930 years "and had other sons and daughters."

³When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth. ⁴After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ⁵Altogether, Adam lived 930 years, and then he died. (Genesis 5:3-5)

This phrase, "and had other sons and daughters," is used nine times in Genesis 5 referring to Adam and Eve and their offspring. The population of the earth was rapidly expanding from the first man and woman.

Two other verses tell us there was a large population from which Cain could choose a wife. In Genesis, after God has cursed Cain and begins to drive him away from his home, Cain complains to God.

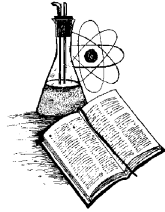
¹³Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is more than I can bear. ¹⁴Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." (Genesis 4:13-14)

Why would Cain have any fear of someone killing him if there were only Adam, Eve and himself on the earth? Obviously there were many people on the earth at the time he killed Abel and received God's curse. The final indication that the earth was being rapidly populated is found in the second part of Genesis 4:17.

¹⁷Cain lay with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch. (Genesis 4:17)

Notice that at the time Cain's wife gave birth to Enoch, he was building a city that he named after his son Enoch. There was no need for Cain to build a city if there were no people to live there. So again, the reliability of Scripture provides the answer for where Cain found a wife.

C. Science and the Bible



Evolutionists believe that people evolved from animals. According to that false belief, the first people were thought to be very primitive. But Genesis gives a very different perspective.

¹⁷Cain lay with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch.

¹⁸To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the father of Methushael, and Methushael was the father of Lamech. ¹⁹Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah. ²⁰Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who live in tents and raise livestock. ²¹His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all who play the harp and flute. ²²Zillah also had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of bronze and iron. (Genesis 4:17-22)

Building cities, raising livestock, making tools from bronze and iron and playing music with flutes and harps are not the characteristics of a primitive culture. Man was created by God in His image and likeness, in a state of perfection, with high intelligence. Mankind has fallen from that condition as a result of the effects of sin. Any so called primitive cultures that exist today, or that may have existed in the past, are not evidence of mankind developing to a more advanced form. They are a sad reminder of how people have fallen from perfection in disobedience to God.

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. From the study of Abel, discuss why Jesus spoke highly of him.
2. From the study of Cain, discuss why God was displeased with Cain's attitudes.
3. What are ways you can become more like Abel and less like Cain?

Application

1. Understanding where Cain found a wife has caused some people to doubt the truth of Genesis. Write why there seems to be a problem with the origin of Cain's wife. Then write the logical answer found in Genesis.
2. Become familiar with the Scriptures in this lesson. Then you can help others to understand that man did not evolve upward from a primitive condition. He was created by God with high intelligence and possessed the technical skills of modern cultures.

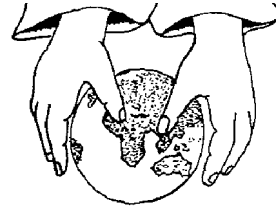
Lesson

6

GOD JUDGES WICKEDNESS

Objectives

- To understand that God will not overlook sin
- To see that God is the judge of all people
- To learn that God provides a way of escape for those who love and obey Him
- To learn that the ark of Noah is a type, or symbol, of Christ



Key Verse

⁵The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. ⁶The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. ⁷So the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth - men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air - for I am grieved that I have made them." ⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. (Genesis 6:5-8)

A. Evil of man and God's grace to Noah

Genesis 6 shows that the earth's population was increasing rapidly. Verse 5 says that the wickedness of mankind had become great. People had so completely turned away from God that every thought in their hearts was evil all the time. Remember that all wickedness came into God's perfect world through the sin of Adam.

⁵The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. (Genesis 6:5)

The Lord's heart was grieved by mankind's turning away from Him. His heart was filled with pain.

⁶The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. (Genesis 6:6)

God's solution to this rebellion was a world-wide flood to destroy all mankind as well as all animals that move along the ground and all birds of the air. (📖 Read about the Flood of Noah in Genesis 6-9.) Note that the promise to destroy every creature that has the breath of life in it does not include fish, since they do not breathe air in the same way a land creature does. God's promise to destroy the earth, the land animals and people shows how offended God is by the sin and disobedience of mankind.

⁷So the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth - men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air - for I am grieved that I have made them." (Genesis 6:7)

¹¹Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹²God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ... ¹⁷I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of

life in it. Everything on earth will perish.” (Genesis 6:11-13, 17)

Genesis 6:8 is one of the most significant verses in the Bible. If God had not chosen to show His grace (or favor) to Noah, mankind would not be on earth today.

⁸*But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. (Genesis 6:8)*

The first time the word “righteous” is used in the Bible is to describe the loving and obedient relationship Noah enjoyed with God.

⁹*This is the account of Noah. Noah was a **righteous** man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. (Genesis 6:9)*

²²*Noah **did everything** just as God commanded him. (Genesis 6:22)*

⁵*And Noah **did all** that the LORD commanded him. (Genesis 7:5)*

📖 Read 2 Peter 2:5 and Hebrews 11:7 for other references to Noah’s righteousness and faith.

B. Disaster of the Flood compared to the Second Coming of Jesus

Jesus speaks of the Flood of Noah in Matthew 24:36-51 and compares the Flood to His Second Coming. Part of the Scripture is shown in the following text. Jesus declared that the Flood of Noah was a real event in history. All people on earth at that time were swept away in the Flood-waters, except Noah and his family, who were on the ark. In the same way that the Flood was a world-wide event, affecting all people, so will it be on the day that Jesus returns to earth.

³⁶*No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷**As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of***

the Son of Man. ³⁸For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.” (Matthew 24:36-39)

The earth was full of wickedness when God brought the Flood. The Book of 2 Timothy says it will also be that way when Jesus returns the second time. The following Scripture lists the attitudes and actions that will be present in people during the last days before His return.

¹But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.
²People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God - ⁵having a form of godliness but denying its power. ... (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

According to what Jesus said, the heart attitudes of people before the Flood and those of people before the Second Coming will be the same. These evil characteristics show the behavior of sinful people when they live only to please themselves. The Flood of Noah was God's judgment against this type of ungodly lifestyle.

The writer of Hebrews explains that **all people will die once, and then face judgment.** However, there is hope and comfort found in Jesus as seen in the following Scripture.

²⁷Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. (Hebrews 9:27-28)

Those who accept Jesus as Savior have their sins forgiven and taken away. When He returns, there is no reason to be afraid for He is bringing salvation to all who are waiting for Him. See Appendix 3, Eternal Life With God Through Jesus.

The Bible is God's Word to mankind. It is living and active. It is the judge of our thoughts and attitudes of our heart.

*¹²For the word of God is **living and active**. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; **it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart**. ¹³Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. (Hebrews 4:12-13)*

The Gospel of John explains that Jesus Himself is the "Word" and that He is God. Jesus is God who came to live among mankind.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-3, 14)

Jesus explains in John 12 that all people will be judged based upon their acceptance or rejection of Him and the words He spoke.

*⁴⁴Then Jesus cried out, "When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me. ⁴⁵When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me. ⁴⁶I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness. ⁴⁷As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. ⁴⁸**There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day.**" (John 12:44-48)*

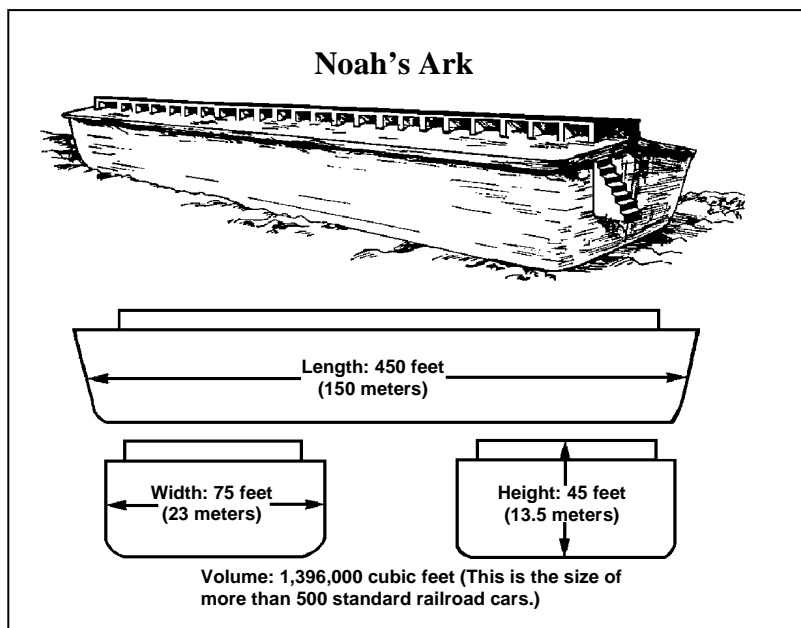
It is an encouragement to read and believe the words of Jesus and to actually make them the very foundation of life. This will result in learning God's will for living each day in ways that are pleasing to Him.

C. Noah's ark

God instructed Noah to build an ark. The purpose of the ark was to provide a way for Noah, his family and the animals with him to survive the coming world wide judgment by floodwaters. The ark was a large ship, 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high.

¹⁴So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. ¹⁵This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. ¹⁶Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. (Genesis 6:14-16)

Diagram 6.1 Illustration of how the ark might have looked ¹



To understand the great size of the ark, consider that it was not until 1884, about 4,500 years after the flood, that people were able to build a ship greater in capacity than the ark. That

**It was not until 1884
that people built a ship
larger than the ark.**

ship was called the Eturia, a Cunard ocean liner.

There are several ways that the ark of Noah, and its purpose, can be compared to Jesus and what He has accomplished for the believer.

1. In Genesis 6:14, **Noah is instructed to coat the ark with “pitch.”** This word in the Hebrew language is *kopher*. This same Hebrew word is also used in Leviticus 17:11 where it is translated as “atonement.”

¹⁴*So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with **pitch** inside and out. (Genesis 6:14)*

¹¹*For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make **atonement** for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life. (Leviticus 17:11)*

Just as the pitch provided protection for the ark against the floodwaters, the blood of Jesus provides a covering for our souls and deliverance from the penalty of our sins.

Another example of the use of pitch for protection was in the account of Moses. He was delivered from certain death by being hidden in a pitch-coated basket or an “ark of bulrushes.” (📖 See Exodus 1:22-2:10.)

2. **God instructs Noah to put a single door in the side of the ark.**

¹⁶*... Put a **door** in the side of the ark. ... (Genesis 6:16)*

Jesus speaks of being the “gate” for His sheep. The Greek word used for “gate” has the meaning of a door, entrance or gate. Jesus says:

⁷*Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the **gate** for the sheep. ⁸All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the **gate**; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. (Jn. 10:7-9)*

Jesus is the only way to God. One can enter into salvation and escape the consequences of the coming judgment of sin and reap the benefits of eternal life through Jesus. Noah, his family

and the animals with him did exactly that. They came into the ark through the one door God had provided. After the Flood, they went out and found pasture (life) in the new world.

3. When the waters of the Flood began to recede off of the earth, **the ark rested** on the mountains of Ararat.

*⁴and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to **rest** on the mountains of Ararat. (Genesis 8:4)*

This is the second time the word “rest” is used in Scripture. The first time is found in Genesis 2:2, when God “rested” on the seventh day after He had finished the creation on the sixth day.

In comparing the ark to Christ, John says the last words of Jesus as he hung on the cross for our sins were:

³⁰... Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (John 19:30)

God labored for six days during creation and rested from His work of creating. The ark labored for 150 days protecting its occupants from the floodwaters of judgment and rested. Jesus labored on the cross for our salvation and He rested.

- All the work of creation is finished.
- All the work of the ark is finished.
- All the work of salvation is finished by Christ on the cross.

D. Soon, the return of Jesus

The world conditions in the time before the Flood of Noah brought judgment on the entire world. Likewise, the conditions in the last days of this age will precede the return of Christ.

²⁶Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. (Luke 17:26)

The conditions shown in the following list were common in the days of Noah and they are all rapidly increasing in the world today. There is good reason, therefore, to believe that these present times could be those which immediately precede the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- Rapid advances in technology
- Preoccupation with physical appetites
- Grossly materialistic attitudes and interests
- Excessive pleasure and comfort
- No concern for God in either belief or conduct
- Disregard for the sacredness of the marriage relationship
- Population explosion
- Rejection of the inspired Word of God
- Widespread violence
- Preoccupation with immoral sex activity
- Organized Satanic activity
- Encouragement of abnormal behavior
- Widespread words and thoughts of blasphemy
- Uniformitarian philosophies (This is the theory that all geological phenomena are the result of existing forces that have operated uniformly from the origin of the earth until the present time.)
- Corruption throughout society

E. Science and the Bible



It is commonly believed mankind is living longer today than ever before. While it is true that advances in medical care indicate people are living longer than they did a few hundred years ago, the Bible says Adam lived to be 930 years old. (Genesis 5:5) These are literal years, just as the days of creation week are literal, 24 hour days. Noah lived 950 years (Genesis 9:28), Abraham 175 years (Genesis 25:7), and Moses 120 years (Deut. 34:7).

David mentions that 70 to 80 years was the normal life span of people in his day - which is also true today.

¹⁰The length of our days is seventy years - or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. (Psalm 90:10)

Something happened at the time of the Flood that caused a harmful change in the world's weather system. This may provide a reason why today's life span is only a fraction of the life span of the first man, Adam.

Diagram 3.1, in Lesson 3, shows what the pre-Flood weather system may have been like. Much of the worldwide pleasant climate can be attributed to the separating of the waters on Day 2 of the creation week. The atmosphere of earth was between the waters. The waters above the atmosphere made possible what is called the "Canopy Theory." The existence of a layer of water, or water vapor, high above the earth would not only explain the original perfect weather, but also the fact that mankind lived for many hundreds of years.

Water vapor, even in vast quantities, is invisible and would provide a layer of protection from the harmful radiation from the sun. Some of the radiation from the sun is known to cause certain cancers, genetic mutations and birth defects. All of these can prevent long life.

At the time of the Flood, one of the three sources of water for the Flood was the opening of "the floodgates of the heavens" (Genesis 7:11-12). From the first day of the Flood, the canopy began to collapse. It was gone 150 days later. Since then, the earth has not had this layer of protection provided in God's original creation. The effects of sin and a less healthy climate have caused a steady decline in the life span of people. This is a reasonable explanation of why Adam lived 930 years while people now die much younger.

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. What things in Noah's life found favor with God? Read Genesis 6:8-9, 22, 7:1-5, 2 Peter 2:5, Hebrews 11:6-7.
2. If Noah found safety "in" the ark, how safe are those who are "in" Christ? Read Romans 8:38-39 and John 10:27-30. Discuss in class.
3. Why did God decide to destroy the world during the days of Noah? Read Genesis 6:5-13 and discuss.

4. Discuss Appendix 3, Eternal Life With God Through Jesus, at the end of this manual.
 - What does a person need to know to become a Christian?
 - What does a person need to do to become a Christian?
 - Ask if there is anyone who would like to make this commitment. If so, talk with them privately and pray with them for salvation.

5. What is the answer for someone who claims there are many ways to God? As a class, look up and discuss what the Bible says about God.

Scripture	What does the Bible say about God?
Luke 10:22	
John 6:28-29, 35-40	
John 10:24-30	
John 14:5-11	
John 15:23	
1 John 2:22-25	
Philippians 2:5-11	

 **Application**

1. Write how you could use the ark of Noah to explain the protection offered by Jesus. Share this truth with a non-believer.

2. Read Romans 6:6, Ephesians 4:30-32 and Isaiah 63:10. Have you ever considered that your sin could cause God's heart to be grieved and filled with pain? Pray for God's Holy Spirit to show you how to love God better and keep you from sin.

¹ Henry M. Morris, *The Biblical Basis for Modern Science*, (Master Books, Inc., Green Forest, Arkansas, 1984), page 271.

² Henry M. Morris, *The Genesis Record*, (Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1976), pages 174-175.

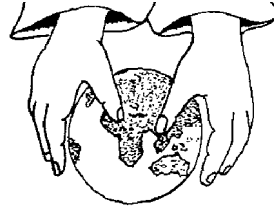
Lesson

7

THE FLOOD OF NOAH

Objectives

- To see that God fulfills His promises
- To understand the Flood was a year-long, global catastrophe
- To learn from where the Floodwaters came and where they are now
- To see that the earth's crust is a witness to the reliability of Scripture and not evidence for evolution



Key Verse

⁷And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood. ⁸Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, ⁹male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. (Genesis 7:7-9)

 Read about the Flood of Noah in Genesis 7:10–9:17.

A. The animals

Genesis 7:7-9 says that when the ark was finished, all of the animals came to Noah and entered the ark.

Remember from the study in previous lessons that at the time Noah was building the ark, the earth had a uniform, pleasant climate. There were no extremely hot or cold areas on the earth. Therefore, all the various **kinds** of animals God wanted to be with Noah on the ark would have been living near Noah and the ark. Some people have asked how there would have been room for all the animals on the ark. Two answers could be:

1. The ark was a very large ship. (See Diagram 6.1 in Lesson 6.)
2. God brought Noah each “kind” of basic animal to be carried on the ark. Only two of each animal would be needed to produce all of the animals on earth today in only 4,500 years. For example, Noah did not have to take every single variety of dog with him for the dog “kind” to repopulate the earth after the Flood. It is known from the study of genetics that all of the many varieties of dogs we see today are merely genetic re-combinations of the dog “kind.” All varieties of dogs are 100% dog. The same is true with cats, sheep, horses and all the other animals.

B. The Flood

Genesis 7:11-12 describes the beginning of the most dramatic event in earth’s history since the creation week.

*¹¹In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day **all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened.** ¹²And **rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.** (Genesis 7:11-12)*

Notice from the previous Scripture that at a specific point in time, “on that day,” the Floodwaters came from three sources:

1. The springs of the great deep
2. The floodgates of the heavens
3. Rain

Each of these sources of water are discussed in the following text. Refer to Diagram 3.1, Pre-Flood Water Cycle, in Lesson 3.

1. The “**springs of the great deep**” was the underground water supply in the original creation. On the day the Flood began, all over the earth, the land split open and the underground springs of the great deep were released as Floodwaters. 📖 See Genesis 7:11.

*⁴This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens – and ⁵no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶but **streams came up from the earth** and watered the whole surface of the ground. (Genesis 2:4-6)*

2. The “**floodgates of the heavens**” refer to water, or water vapor, God placed above the skies on Day 2 of the creation week. These floodgates were opened and provided a second source of Floodwaters.

*⁶And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." ⁷So **God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it.** And it was so. ⁸God called the expanse "sky" ... (Genesis 1:6-8)*

3. **Rain** – The “springs of the great deep” and the “floodgates of the heavens” were no longer in their original places. They no longer fulfilled their original functions. The original peaceful weather system was destroyed. **Rain fell for the first time.** 📖 See Genesis 4:2-6.


Table 7.1 explains the order and intensity of the Floodwaters covering the earth. It also shows the passage of time during the Flood.

Table 7.1 The Flood events and length of time	
Event	Length of time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noah and the animals enter the ark. 	During the seven days before the Flood
<p>¹The LORD then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. ²Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, ³and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. (Genesis 7:1-3)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fountains of the deep burst forth, floodgates of heaven were opened and rain fell. 	40 days and nights required for the whole earth to be covered with water
<p>¹¹In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. ¹²And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. (Genesis 7:11-12)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood waters covered all the earth. 	150 days (5 months)
<p>²⁴The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days. (Genesis 7:24)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood waters began to recede. 	End of 150 days
<p>¹But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded. ²Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of the heavens had been closed, and the rain had stopped falling from the sky. ³The water receded steadily from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the water had gone down, (Genesis 8:1-3)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ark rested on the mountains of Ararat. 	End of 2 months
<p>⁴and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. (Genesis 8:4)</p>	

Table 7.1 The Flood events and length of time	
Event	Length of time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tops of mountains became visible. 	End of 3 months
<i>⁵The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible. (Genesis 8:5)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noah released a raven and dove. Only the dove returned. 	End of 40 days
<i>⁶After forty days Noah opened the window he had made in the ark ⁷and sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. ⁸Then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. ⁹But the dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark. (Genesis 8:6-9)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noah released the dove. It returned in the evening with an olive leaf. 	End of 7 days
<i>¹⁰He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. ¹¹When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. (Genesis 8:10-11)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noah released a dove which did not return. 	End of next 7 days
<i>¹²He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him. (Genesis 8:12)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The surface of the ground was dry 	1 year from start of the Flood
<i>¹³By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. (Genesis 8:13)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The land was completely dry. Noah, his family and all the animals left the ark. 	1 year, 1 month from start of the Flood
<i>¹⁴By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry. ¹⁵Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶"Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives.</i>	

Table 7.1 The Flood events and length of time	
Event	Length of time
<i>¹⁷Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it." ¹⁸So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. ¹⁹All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on the earth—came out of the ark, one kind after another. (Genesis 8:14-19)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noah built an altar to worship God. 	Immediately after leaving the ark
<i>²⁰Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. (Genesis 8:20)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> God accepted Noah's offering and promised to never again destroy the living creatures. 	Immediately after Noah's offering on the altar
<i>²¹The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. ²²"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (Genesis 8:21-22)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> God made a covenant with Noah never to destroy life on earth with a flood. 	After Noah's offering
<i>⁹Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you ¹⁰and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth." (Genesis 9:9-11)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sign of God's covenant with Noah and every living creature is a bow in the clouds (rainbow). 	After God made the covenant
<i>¹²And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making</i>	

Table 7.1 The Flood events and length of time

Event	Length of time
<i>between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: ¹³I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. (Genesis 9:12-13)  See also Genesis 9:14-17.</i>	

C. Wickedness

Before the Flood, God gave a prophecy about the Flood. He said because of the wickedness of mankind, He would destroy them, every creature that has the breath of life in it and the earth. Only Noah and those on the ark with him would survive. Did the Flood accomplish what God intended? Yes, it did. The Bible says that everything God said would happen did occur.

¹⁸The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. ¹⁹They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. ²⁰The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than twenty feet. ²¹Every living thing that moved on the earth perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. ²²Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. ²³Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air were wiped from the earth. Only Noah and those with him in the ark were left. (Genesis 7:18-23)

This helps us understand something about Biblical prophecy. The prophecies in the Bible are reliable and can be fully believed. Biblical prophecies include those that have already been exactly and literally fulfilled, and those that will be exactly and literally fulfilled in the future.

D. The resulting devastation

Read again Genesis 7:21-23. Many people today have seen and experienced local floods which may have caused much damage. However, it is hard to imagine the vast, world-wide destruction caused by the Flood. Try to understand what the words in this Scripture say.

As beautiful as many parts of the world are today, we live in a cursed, flooded remnant of a perfect creation.

- *Every living thing that moved on the earth perished. That included all birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. (7:21)*
- *Every living thing on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. (7:22)*
- *Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out – men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air. (7:23)*

Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark (his family and the animals) survived. This is a picture of complete devastation. Life would begin the process of rebuilding and spreading over the earth, but the earth would never be the same. As beautiful as many parts of the world are today, we live in a cursed, flooded remnant of a perfect creation.

E. The covenant (promise)

God made a covenant (promise) with Noah, his descendants and every creature that was with him on the ark and the earth. God promised to never again destroy all life, or the earth, as He had done by the waters of a flood.

¹¹I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: ¹³I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴Whenever I bring clouds over the earth

and the rainbow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. ¹⁶Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth." ¹⁷So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth." (Genesis 9:11-17)

God's sign of this covenant is the rainbow in the sky. There were no rainbows before this time. Remember, before the Flood, the weather system was perfect, without storms, extreme heat, cold or rain. The rainbow became possible only as a result of the new weather system that began after the Flood.

E. Science and the Bible

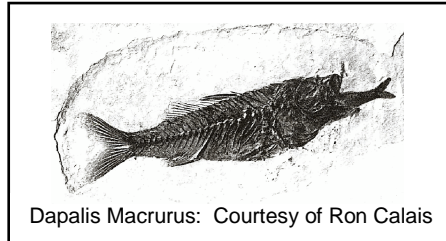


The fossil remains of once living organisms are found all over the world in the crust of the earth. Evolutionists believe that the layers of the earth's crust were laid down slowly over very long periods of time. The fossils are supposed to show a gradual increase in the complexity of life over time, from simple to complex, from molecules to man.

There are two big problems with this idea. One problem is that there are no intermediate fossils between life forms. For example, if a fish had evolved to become a reptile which walked on land, there would have been billions of transitional forms between the fish and the reptile. For evolution to be true, there would have to be many fossil examples showing the fins of the fish gradually changing into the legs of the reptile. **There are none.**

The other problem for evolutionists is that the layers of the earth, called sediments, were laid down rapidly by moving water. This fact is in perfect agreement with the description of the global Flood of Noah. The Flood model of the earth's history predicts that the earth's crust would consist of layers of sediments, laid down by moving water, and be full of dead things. This is exactly what we find. If the layers of the earth were laid down during and shortly after the one year of the Flood of Noah, the long periods of time needed

by evolution disappear! An example is this picture of a fossil which shows a fish eating another fish. This fossil demonstrates rapid burial and fossilization. It shows that this event took place instantly, not over a long period of time.



We know that all of the highest mountain ranges all over the world have been under water because there are marine fossils found

The Flood model of earth's history predicts that the earth's crust would consist of layers of sediments, laid down by moving water, and be full of dead things. This is exactly what is found.

there. The mountains of Ararat, where the ark of Noah rested, are made of "pillow lava." Pillow lava is formed by an underwater volcano. The billions and billions of fossils preserved in the rock layers of the earth were alive "on that day" when the Flood began.

We also know from fossil evidence that the world at one time was covered by lush tropical forests. These forests were uprooted and washed away by the power of the Flood. They were then buried in sediments where, under conditions of heat and pressure, they became coal and oil. These sources of energy in the world today are the destroyed and buried forests from the time of Noah.

The sources of energy in the world today are the destroyed and buried forests from the time of Noah.

The following Scripture in 2 Peter gives an interesting prophecy that is coming true in today.

³First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." ⁵But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water

and by water. ⁶By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. (2 Peter 3:3-6)

The rock layers of the earth's crust bear a silent witness against these scoffers (mockers) to the awesome power of God and the reliability of Scripture.

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. Many people within the church have weakened Scripture by claiming the Flood of Noah was a small local event. This is done to allow for the long periods of time needed for evolution which is promoted by many geologists. By accepting this false idea, the account of Noah then becomes only useful for its moral and spiritual lessons and not as a fact of history.
2. Read Genesis 7:11-8:14. This Scripture shows how the Flood of Noah could not have been a small or local flood. List examples from this Scripture that support the fact that the Flood of Noah was a world shattering, water-based catastrophe.

Genesis 7:19 All the high mountains were covered

Genesis 7:21 All flesh (birds, cattle, beasts, swarming thing, mankind) perished

Genesis 7:22 All living things that had the breath of life died

Genesis 8:4 The ark rested on the top of the mountains of Ararat

Genesis 8:5 The tops of the mountains became visible

Genesis 8:8 The dove could not find a resting place (no trees or land)

Discuss the importance of accepting the Flood of Noah as being an actual worldwide event. Consider this: Jesus uses the Flood of Noah to help us understand and prepare for His Second Coming. If the Flood of Noah was local, then by the same reasoning, the Second Coming must be

local also. **This cannot be true.** Errors like that happen when the clear teaching of the Bible is compromised. When Jesus returns to earth **on that day** every person all over the earth will be aware of His coming again.

4. In Job 37:6, there is a phrase “mighty downpour.” This word in Hebrew is *mabbul*. It is always and only used to refer to the Flood of Noah. With that in mind, read Job 36:32 through 37:13. Make a list of new weather events that came into being at the time of the Flood. Discuss how frightening it would be to experience these changes in the weather for the first time.

Application

1. Examine the world around you for evidences of the Flood of Noah. When you see rock formations and fossil remains of once living creatures, pause to remember that you are looking at evidence of the judgment of God during the year of Noah’s Flood. Write these examples on a piece of paper for future reference.
2. When you read about evolution in the popular press or visit a museum display that assumes evolution to be true, examine the evidence for yourself to see if the evidence can be better explained by the Creation/Flood model of earth’s history. Write your conclusions.
3. Read Psalm 104:5-9. This tells of the water flowing from above the tops of the mountains and into our present oceans. Many of our present day canyon and river drainage systems were formed by this massive amount of flowing water. Look for some of the features of the earth in your area that were formed during or by the Flood of Noah and write them on a piece of paper for future reference.

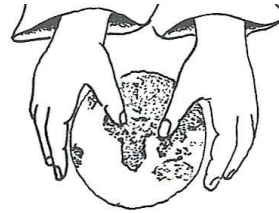
Lesson

8

THE EARTH RE-POPULATED


Objectives

- To learn that all people are descended from Noah and his family
- To understand that there is only one race of people
- To learn how the spread of people from the tower of Babel explains the origin of the various languages and cultures



Key Verses

¹⁸The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham and Japheth. ... ¹⁹These were the three sons of Noah, and from them came the people who were scattered over the earth. (Genesis 9:18-19)

 See also Genesis 10:32.

²⁶From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. (Acts 17:26)

²⁰... God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water. (1 Peter 3:20)

A. Only eight people were on the ark

Genesis states that Noah and his wife, as well as his three sons and their wives, were the only people on the ark.

¹³On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. (Genesis 7:13)

Refer to the key verse, 1 Peter 3:20. Peter confirms this fact by stating that these eight people were the only ones who were saved from the worldwide Flood.

The key verse of Genesis 9:18-19 explains that the earth's people were all descended from the three sons of Noah and their wives. Thus, when mankind began to multiply and repopulate the earth after the Flood, all men were born as the offspring of the sons of Noah. This is very important. This means that there is only one race of people. All men and women alive today can trace their lineage back to the family of Noah. Noah and his family, of course, have a genealogy that goes back to Adam and Eve. Genesis 1:26-27 explains that the first man and woman were created in the image and likeness of God.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:26-27)

The Bible does not support the concept of racism, which falsely believes that one race of people is superior to, or better than, other races of people. Evolution teaches the opposite. When Adolph Hitler during World War II tried to kill all Jewish people, many have said that his basis for doing so came from the writings of evolutionist Charles Darwin. In 1859, Darwin wrote a book entitled, "*The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life.*" Darwin claimed that people with black skin, or people from more primitive cultures, represented less advanced forms of human life. This book

influenced Hitler and others to believe that some people have less value and can be mistreated, or even eliminated, if necessary. John 3:16 makes it clear that men and women from all parts of the world are of equal value to God.

Racism is not supported by the Bible, but racism is foundational to evolution.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

B. Two commands to fill the earth

1. God told Adam and his wife to be fruitful, increase in number, fill the earth and subdue it.

²⁸God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." (Genesis 1:28)

2. After the Flood, God gave the same command to Noah and his sons.

¹Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth." (Genesis 9:1) (📖 See also Genesis 9:7.)

It was not long after this that people chose to rebel against God and disobey this clear command.

C. Human language after the Flood

Genesis makes an important statement about human language after the Flood. At that time, all people spoke the same language. This is not the case today. The many languages present today are explained in Genesis.

¹Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. ²As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. ³They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. ⁴Then they

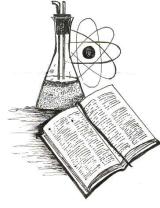
said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth." ⁵But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. ⁶The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. ⁷Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other." ⁸So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. ⁹That is why it was called Babel - because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth. (Genesis 11:1-9)

People had chosen to disobey God's command to fill the earth. Verse 11:4 shows the rebellion that took place when people agreed to stop filling the earth and decided to stay in one place to build a city, "*and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth.*"

This event told in Genesis explains why nations and people across the world can have such dramatic differences, but are still one race, the human race.

God's judgment upon this rebellion was to confuse their language so that people could not understand each other. This would force them to spread over the face of the earth and "fill it" as God had commanded. This action of God explains not only where the various languages originated, but also the different cultures. The large population that had spoken a common language was then broken up into smaller groups according to language. Then, as God had originally intended, these groups began migrating away from a central place to go to every part of the world. As they became separated by time and distance, each group became a distinct culture with different speech, different life styles and even different appearances. As told in Genesis, this event explains why nations and people across the world can have such dramatic differences yet are still one race, the human race.

D. Science and the Bible



The dramatic events (both during and after the Flood of Noah) can explain the Ice Age which affected the most northern and southern portions of the earth. The Ice Age was a time in history when large areas of the earth were covered by ice, snow and glaciers.

During the Ice Age, the sea level would have been lowered. The original creation was “very good.” We know from this that before the Flood, there was a world wide temperate climate with no rainfall or violent weather.

When “the springs of the great deep burst forth” on the day the Flood began, tremendous volcanoes would release heat into the oceans. This heat would cause heavy rainfall for many years until the temperature of the oceans stabilized close to where they are today. This heavy rainfall at the colder regions of the earth, both north and south, would have fallen in the form of snow or ice. If this condition lasted for 100-200 years after the Flood, there would be a huge build up of ice and snow, especially at the north and south poles.

This vast amount of water, temporarily stored at the poles, would have resulted in a sea level about 600 feet lower than today. The evidence of this lower sea level can be seen on every continent in the form of what is called the “continental shelf.” The continental shelf is an underwater extension of land that surrounds each continent. This shelf is thought to have been the sea level during the Ice Age.

The lower sea level during the Ice Age made it possible for man and animals to migrate, by walking, to every continent on earth. When snow and ice began to melt at the end of the Ice Age, these land bridges between continents were once again covered by the oceans.

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. All people on the earth came from Noah's sons and their wives, who were descended from Adam and Eve. In class, compare this truth with the claim of evolution that mankind is made up of many races, or classes of people, all of whom evolved from some ape-like animal.
2. Before the Flood, Genesis 4:20-22 explains that the offspring of Adam and Eve were raising livestock, playing musical instruments and making tools from bronze and iron. These skills and knowledge would have been available to the builders of the Tower of Babel. Then the people were scattered away from Babel in small groups, because they were no longer able to understand each other. Discuss why this would tend to cause a loss of previously known skills and knowledge. Would this temporarily halt the advance of mankind's technology?
3. Discuss how the Ice Age would allow the spread of people and animals to every place in the world.

Application

1. How does the truth of creation - that all men and women are created in the image and likeness of God - encourage you to love people from all other areas of the world? Write your answer on a piece of paper.
2. As a result of mankind's willful disobedience of God's command at Babel, God brought great confusion to them. If you are faced with confusion in your life, consider whether there is willful disobedience, or sin, in your life. If the answer is yes, repent (turn away) from your sin and ask God's forgiveness. If the answer is no, pray to God for wisdom about how to not be confused.
3. Write how the confusion of languages at the tower of Babel accounts for the various cultures in the world today.

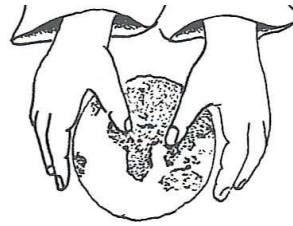
Lesson

9

GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE

Objectives

- To learn that God promised the Messiah, Jesus, would one day come to earth through the nation of Israel
- To learn that God, through the promises to Abraham, desires to bless all people and all nations
- To understand that a right relationship with God is based on faith in God and His Word and not on the works of people
- To understand the unconditional promise of God to provide a homeland for the nation of Israel



Key Verses

¹The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

²"I will make you into a great nation
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

*³I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you." (Genesis 12:1-3)*

*⁶Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as
righteousness. (Genesis 15:6)*

📖 See also Genesis 11:27-32 and 15:1-7.

A. God chose Abram (Abraham)


God chose a man called Abram to become the father of a great nation. 📖 Read the account about Abram (later named Abraham) in Genesis 12-25.

The key verse predicts that from the nation of Israel would one day come the promised Messiah, the Savior, Jesus Christ. Notice that part of God's promise to make Abram into a great nation would also affect "all people on earth" (other nations in the world). All nations will be blessed through Abram due to the coming of the Messiah, Jesus, the Savior of all who believe in Him. Those people and nations who choose to bless Abram and his people will be blessed by God. However, there is a solemn warning for those who would choose to curse Abram and his people. They would receive the curse of God upon them.

When Abram received the command of God to leave his country, his people and his father's household, he was 75 years old and Sarai, his wife, was 65 years old. Genesis 11:30 explains that Sarai was barren. She and Abram had not been able to have any children.

*³⁰Now Sarai was barren; she had no children. (Genesis
11:30)*

Genesis makes an important statement about Abram. He obeyed God. He did so without hesitation and without a clear idea of where he would be going. He trusted God with his future.

⁴So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. (Genesis 12:4)  See Hebrews 11:8.

B. The land promised to Abram

First, God promised to give Abram and his offspring a specific area of land.

⁶Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him." (Genesis 12:6-7)

Some years later God showed Abram the special land He promised to give him.

¹⁴The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, "Lift up your eyes from where you are and look north and south, east and west. ¹⁵All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. ¹⁶I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. ¹⁷Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you. (Genesis 13:14-17)

In Genesis 17, God restates His promise to provide a homeland for Abram's offspring. There can be no confusion to whom was given the right to possess the land of Canaan.

⁸The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God. (Genesis 17:8)

This land is later described as being between the Nile River in present day Egypt and the River Euphrates which runs through present day Iraq and Syria and includes Israel. God at this time restates His promise that Abram would be the father of a great

nation whose number could not be counted, even though Abram and Sarai were still unable to have children.

C. Abram's disobedience

Genesis 16 gives the sad account of what happens when people grow impatient and tired of waiting for God to fulfill His promises. Abram was now 85 years old and Sarai was 75 years old. It had been 10 years since God promised that they would become a great nation through their offspring (children).

Apart from a miracle, they would never be able to have children. So, Sarai brought to Abram her maidservant, Hagar, in hope that possibly she and Abram could have a child. Sarai hoped to build a family through Hagar's child. This was done in disobedience to God.

Hagar gave birth to a son. God named the son Ishmael. At the same time, He proclaimed a prophecy that the boy and his offspring would live in hostility towards all his brothers. 📖 Read about this in Genesis 16.

Paul wrote about this act of disobedience in his letter to the Galatians. He said that those who believe in Jesus Christ are free and are like the children of promise.

²²For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman [Hagar] and the other by the free woman [Sarah]. ²³His son [Ishmael] by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way; but his son [Isaac] by the free woman was born as the result of a promise. ... ²⁸Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹At that time the son born in the ordinary way persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now. ³⁰But what does the Scripture say? "Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son." ³¹Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman. (Galatians 4:22-23, 28-31)

D. The promise fulfilled

When Abram was 99 years old and Sarai was 89 years old, God again promised that Abram and Sarai would have a child. God told them they would have a son by the following year and they were to name him Isaac. God also changed their names to Abraham and Sarah.

⁵No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations (Genesis 17:5)

¹⁵God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. (Genesis 17:15)

The Bible explains that while Ishmael would be blessed by having many descendants, the promised Messiah would come only through Isaac.

¹⁹Then God said, "Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him. ²⁰And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him; I will make him fruitful and will greatly increase his numbers. He will be the father of twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation. ²¹But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year." (Genesis 17:19-21)

The fact that Jesus came to earth through Abraham can be understood by reading the genealogies found in the New Testament. Matthew 1:1-17 shows the genealogy of Jesus from Abraham to Joseph. In Luke 3:23-38, the family genealogy goes from Jesus, all the way back through Abraham to the first man, Adam.

It is important to understand the purpose of these genealogies in the Bible. They are not meant to trace the families of everyone who ever lived on earth. They are intended to show the pathway from the first promise of the coming of Jesus in Genesis 3:15 (when the curse

was pronounced) to his physical birth by the virgin Mary in Bethlehem. Jesus' birth, His death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead are all fulfillments of the prophecy first mentioned in Chapter 3 of Genesis.

E. Salvation through faith

The important doctrine that salvation comes by having faith in God and not by performing works is shown in the life of Abraham. In Genesis 15, God shows Abram the stars in the sky. He promises that Abram's offspring will be as uncountable as are the stars. Abram believed God.

⁶“Abram believed the Lord, and he credited to him as righteousness.” (Genesis 15:6)

In Romans 4, the Apostle Paul uses the faith of Abraham as the example of faith for every believer. He explains that a right relationship with God can never be earned by working, but only by believing what God says. Paul quotes Genesis 15:6 as the pattern of faith. He even says in Romans 4:11, “... So then, he [Abraham] is the father of all who believe.”

Scripture continues to emphasize the importance of faith in other writings. Examples are found in Hebrews and Ephesians as follows:

⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. (Hebrews 11:6)

⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Abraham came into a right relationship with God by believing what God said. It is the same for believers today.

¹⁶Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring - not only to those who are of the law but also to

those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. (Romans 4:16)

F. God's Promise to Abraham's offspring

The Jewish people (also called Israel) are descended from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The descendants of Abraham through Isaac formed the nation of Israel. 📖 See Matthew 1:1-17 and Luke 3:23-38. God has proclaimed in the strongest possible way that He will look with favor on those people and nations who are kind towards the Jews. He will curse anyone who persecutes the Jewish people. The following verses from Jeremiah 32 are but one example of the love and care God has for the Jewish people.

³⁸They will be my people, and I will be their God. ³⁹I will give them singleness of heart and action, so that they will always fear me for their own good and the good of their children after them. ⁴⁰I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good to them, and I will inspire them to fear me, so that they will never turn away from me. ⁴¹I will rejoice in doing them good and will assuredly plant them in this land with all my heart and soul. (Jeremiah 32:38-41)

Psalm 122 gives both a command and a promise. Jerusalem was the main city of the nation of Israel and contained the temple from which they worshiped God.

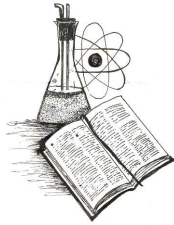
⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure." (Psalm 122:6)

The Scriptures are very clear about what happens to those who bless the nation of Israel. God will indeed bless those who help His people Israel, and will curse those who curse His people Israel (Genesis 12:3). It is through the Jewish people that all people have been blessed through Jesus the Messiah. Jesus was born a Jew and He maintains His Jewish identity in eternity as "The Lion of the tribe of Judah" (Revelation 5:5). It is correct to say that without the Jewish people, there would be no patriarchs, no prophets, no apostles, no Bible, no Savior and no hope. The Gentiles (all people who are not Jewish) can share in the Jew's spiritual blessings. They can also believe in and trust Jesus, the Christ, as their Savior. The

logical response is that the Gentiles should share their material blessings with the Jewish people as well.

²⁷They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings. (Romans 15:27)

G. Science and the Bible



In Jeremiah 31, God explains His guarantee of the permanence of the nation of Israel in scientific terms. In human experience, there is nothing as dependable as the shining of the sun during the day, the shining of the moon and stars at night, and the wave action of the seas. Since the end of the creation week, these things have been in constant and completely dependable operation.

God says that only if these fundamental characteristics of His creation vanish will the descendants of Israel cease to be a nation. In these same verses, God explains in another way the love He has for Israel. Mankind has only the most basic understanding of the incredible vastness of the heavens. In the same way, mankind cannot explore or comprehend the foundation upon which the continents and the oceans rest. God says that only if the heavens can be measured and the foundations of the earth below measured, will He reject the descendants of Israel. These promises are a comfort to all who believe in the God of the Bible through the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ.

³⁵This is what the LORD says, he who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar - the LORD Almighty is his name: ³⁶"Only if these decrees vanish from my sight," declares the LORD, "will the descendants of Israel ever cease to be a nation before me." ³⁷This is what the LORD says: "Only if the heavens above can be measured and the foundations of the earth below be searched out will I reject all the descendants of Israel because of all they have done," declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 31:35-37)

♥ Discussion Points/Questions

1. Read Genesis 12-13.
 - What was it that God found pleasing in Abraham? What blessing did Abraham and his descendants through Isaac receive?
 - Abraham, in disobedience to God, had a son named Ishmael through his servant girl, Hagar. Why is it that only Isaac is called the child of promise?
 - What does the Bible say about people or nations who curse or harm the Jewish people?
 - What does the Bible promise for people or nations that bless or help the Jewish people?

Application

1. All people everywhere are told to: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Psalm 122:6). Have you ever done this? If not, consider making that request a part of your prayer life.
2. God's promise to Abraham was fulfilled in the birth of Isaac 25 years after the promise was made. What lesson could you learn from this example of waiting for God, in faith, to meet your need? Write it on a piece of paper for future reference.
3. Whether you are from a Jewish background or not, thank God for all the blessings that have come to mankind through the nation of Israel.

Appendix 1

Glossary

Accuracy – Freedom from mistake or error. Conformity to a truth or standard. The condition or quality of being precise, without error and correct. (Lessons 1, 5)

Atheism – The world view that says God does not exist, or that holds to a world view without God. Godlessness in life and conduct. (Lesson 1)

Atmosphere – The gas that surrounds the earth. The whole mass of air surrounding the earth. (Lesson 2)

Atonement – The reconciliation between God and man through the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross. Full payment for a debt, injury or offense. The redemptive work of Christ on the cross which makes possible a right relationship between God and man. (Lesson 6)

Apostle – One of an original, authoritative group of New Testament men chosen by Jesus to preach and spread the message of the gospel, consisting of the 12 men Christ originally chose, Matthias who replaced Judas and Paul. (Lessons 2, 9)

Bacteria – A one-celled microscopic organism. (Lesson 4)

Baptism – (Lesson 2)

- **In Water** – An outward act of obedience by which the believer completes the inward righteousness already experienced in the heart through faith in Christ's atoning death for one's sins. The complete immersion into and out of water, the purpose of which is to symbolize the believer's acceptance of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the only sufficient payment for the penalty of one's sins. Carried out in the full name and authority of God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit.

- **In the Holy Spirit** – As distinct from water baptism, an inward and supernatural endowing with power in order to be a witness for Jesus Christ. A supernatural seal, acknowledging that a person has already become a believer in Christ.

Big Bang Theory – The false belief that all matter and energy in the universe originated from a tiny point of extreme density that exploded at some time in the past. From this unobserved explosion, of what was believed to be largely hydrogen gas, all stars, planets and the earth evolved. (Lesson 3)

Blasphemy – The act of insulting, showing irreverence or contempt for God. The act of claiming the attributes of deity. Speaking profanely of God. (Lesson 6)

Cancer – Any disorder of cell growth that results in the invasion and destruction of surrounding healthy tissue. Cancer cells arise from normal cells that are abnormally and permanently changed. (Lesson 6)

Catastrophe – A great and sudden disaster or calamity. A sudden, violent change or upheaval in the earth. (Lesson 7)

Civilization – A state of human society characterized by a high level of cultural, intellectual or social development. A high state of technological development or achievement of human society. Refinement of thought, manners or taste. (Lesson 5)

Complex – Complicated or intricate, as in a structure. Consisting of various connected or interwoven parts. A whole made up of complicated or interrelated parts. (Lessons 4, 7)

Continent – One of the large land masses on earth which include Africa, Australia, Europe, Asia, North America, South America and Antarctica. (Lesson 8)

Covenant – A formal, solemn and binding agreement. An agreement or promise, usually under oath, between two or more parties for the performance of some action. (Lesson 7)

Crucifixion – To be put to death by nailing or binding the hands and feet to a cross. A death of extreme pain and suffering. Jesus

died on the cross willingly as payment for the sins of those who believe in Him as Savior. (Lesson 4)

Culture – The integrated pattern of human behavior that includes thought, speech and actions that is passed on to succeeding generations. The training, development and refinement of mind, morals or taste. (Lessons 5, 8)

Disaster – An event causing great distress, destruction or ruin. A sudden and calamitous event bringing great damage or loss. (Lesson 2)

Disobedience – Refusal, neglect or failure to obey (Lessons 4, 5, 6, 8)

Doctrine – A principle belief in a system of beliefs, in this case, Christianity. That which is presented for acceptance or belief. (Lessons 1, 9)

Energizes – To impart energy into. To make vigorous and strong. Power, forcefully and effectively exercised. (Lesson 2)

Environment – The physical, biological and chemical conditions in which an organism lives. The climate and weather systems that encircle the earth. (Lesson 3)

Eternity – Existing without beginning or end, forever existent, endless duration. Outside of time. (Lessons 2, 9)

Evolution – A process involving change. In biology, the false belief that life forms have progressed upward from non-living chemicals, to simple life and then to all life forms present on earth today. An unguided process that explains life without God. (Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8)

- **Micro-evolution** – The scientifically observed and repeatedly tested changes that happen within a particular life form. For example, micro-evolution explains the fact that there are many varieties and different kinds of dogs. But there has never been a creature observed to be part way between a dog and any other type of animal, such as a cat.

- **Macro-evolution** – The unscientific, unobserved and untestable belief system that one type of plant or animal can change into another type. For example, a fish cannot become a reptile, able to walk and live on land.

Evolutionist – One who accepts the belief system of evolution.
(Lesson 7)

Faith – Something that is believed with strong conviction. Confidence in, or dependence upon, a person, statement or thing as being worthy of trust. Belief in God or in testimony about God as recorded in the Bible. (Lessons 1, 2, 4, 9)

Fossil – The remains of any organism, plant or animal that lived in the past. Most fossils are preserved in the form of mineralized rock. The ideal conditions for fossilization occur when an organism is rapidly covered by soil that is deposited by moving water.
(Lessons 2, 3, 7)

Genealogy – A record, or document, showing the descent of an individual or family from a common ancestor. (Lessons 8, 9)

Genetic – Pertaining to the branch of biology that deals with the variation and heredity of organisms. The genetic material, found in the reproductive cells of every living thing contains controls that limit the amount of change or variation possible for that life form.
(Lessons 6, 7)

Gentiles – People from a non-Jewish ancestry, background or faith.
(Lesson 9)

Geologist – A person who studies geology, the science that studies the origin and structure of the earth, including the physical forces that have shaped it. One example of geology is evidence of the rocks and rock formations. A geologist is one who studies geology.
(Lesson 7)

Gospel – The message concerning Jesus Christ, the Kingdom of God and salvation. The teachings of the Christian church as proclaimed by Jesus Christ and the Apostles. The good news from God that the death penalty due for one's sins has been paid for in full by the life, death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. The

blessings of the gospel are obtained through faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ as the sufficient payment of sin. (Lessons 2, 4, 6)

Grace – The unmerited and unearned, but freely given, love and favor of God towards people. The divine influence operating in a person to regenerate and make him pleasing and acceptable to God. (Lessons 6, 9)

Hostility – Expressing unfriendliness, being antagonistic towards someone or something. Standing in opposition to, as in opposition to an enemy. Resistance in thought or principle. (Lesson 9)

Humanism – A false belief system or attitude of thought that says a person and his personality are central to all things. A false thought that mankind is the measure of all things, not God, and that mankind is in control of the world. A false belief that a person, in himself, can find meaning in life without God. The false belief that the universe is self-existent and not created; that mankind is here as a result of evolution. (Lesson 1)

Ice Age – A time in history when large areas of the earth were covered by ice, snow and glaciers. (Lesson 8)

Indwells – To exist or inhabit as an activating spirit or power. To abide within a person spiritually. (Lesson 2)

Intermediate – Being or occurring in between extremes. A step or stage between extremes. Situated or occurring between two points. (Lessons 1, 7)

Law – In science, a descriptive principle of nature that holds true in all circumstances. Any exceptional event that does not comply with the law would prove that law to be invalid. (Lesson 1)

Law of Biogenesis – The principle that a living organism can only arise from other living organisms similar to itself and can never arise from non-life. Life can only come from life. (Lesson 3)

Law of Cause and Effect – A law of science stating no effect can be greater than its cause. In the example of creation, it can be stated that the universe does exist. The universe could not have

created itself so something or someone greater than itself must be responsible for the existence of the universe. God is greater (or more powerful) than the universe. Therefore, God must be the cause of the universe. Another example would be of a painting and the painter. The painting did not cause itself. The painter is the cause of the painting and is, therefore, greater than the painting. (Lesson 1)

Law of Increasing Entropy – see Second Law of Thermodynamics.

Law of Thermodynamics – See Second Law of Thermodynamics.

Matter – The substance of which a physical object is composed. Material substance that occupies space and has weight, that constitutes the observable universe. (Lessons 1, 2, 3)

Materialism – The false belief that material things make up the only reality; that everything in the universe can be explained by natural laws. Materialism is a denial of the soul or spirit in man. (Lesson 1)

Migrate – To move from one nation, locality or place to another; to change locations. (Lesson 8)

Model – A description used to help visualize, or picture, something that already exists but cannot be directly observed. In the case of creation and evolution, all evidence that can be examined exists in the present. It must then be determined if this evidence seems most likely to have come into existence by the special creation of God. Or does this evidence seem most likely to have come into existence through time, chance and natural processes without God. (Lesson 7)

Molecules – One of the fundamental units forming a chemical compound. Any very small particle. (Lessons 2, 7)

Mutation – A sudden, random and transmissible change in the genetic material of a cell that may cause it, and all cells derived from it, to differ in appearance or behavior from the normal type. A mutation is harmful and injurious to the organism. Birth defects are the result of genetic mutations. (Lesson 6)

New Testament – The portion of the Bible containing the life and teachings of Jesus, which include the Gospels, the Epistles, the book of Acts and the book of Revelation. When combined with the Old Testament, constitutes the entirety of Scripture. (Lesson 1)

Old Testament – The first part of the Bible containing the Jewish canon, or books of Scripture. The first of the two main divisions of the Bible.

Origin – The point at which something begins. The beginning of the existence of anything. A primary source. (Lessons 1, 2, 3)

Patriarch – The oldest member of a group, a founder or a father. One of the scriptural fathers of the Hebrew (Jewish) people: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. (Lesson 9)

Philosophy – The general laws that furnish the rational explanation of anything. Inquiry into the basic principles of reality. (Lesson 6)

Predict – To declare in advance. To foretell based upon observation or reasoning. To make known beforehand and in advance of proof. (Lesson 9)

Primitive – Characteristic of an early stage of development. Crude, unsophisticated, old fashioned, simple. (Lessons 5, 8)

Pitch – A thick substance, or residue obtained by boiling or distilling an oily or fat based substance. Pitch is used to seal or waterproof a surface. (Lesson 6)

Prophecy – To predict with assurance of future events on the basis of divine guidance. To utter by divine inspiration. To point out beforehand as mediator between mankind and God. (Lessons 4, 7, 9)

Racism – A false belief that the differences in human appearances, cultures and characteristics are sufficient to place mankind into different races. The implication is that some races are inherently superior to others. A belief in the superiority or inferiority of a particular group of people on the basis of supposed racial differences; racial prejudice. (Lesson 8)

Radiation – Energy traveling in the form of waves, or rays. An example is light from the sun. (Lesson 6)

Recede – To withdraw or move back. An example is when floodwaters drain down and away from the land. (Lessons 6, 7)

Regenerates – To cause a complete moral and spiritual reformation. The imparting of spiritual life by divine grace. Causing a radical spiritual change for the better. (Lesson 2)

Remnant – That which remains of anything. A remaining trace or quantity of anything. A small surviving group or remaining trace of something. (Lesson 7)

Repent – To feel sorrow, regret or remorse for something one has done, or failed to do. A changing of one's mind. To ask God's forgiveness for sin or wrong actions while turning, or changing directions in order to avoid specific sins in the future. (Lesson 8)

Resurrection – The act of rising from the dead. An example is of Christ being raised from the dead three days after His death on the cross. (Lesson 9)

Righteous – Acting in harmony with divine or moral law. Conforming to a standard of right, justice, or virtuous. Being in right relationship with God. Free from sin or guilt and justified through belief in Jesus as Messiah and Savior. Based on believing, in faith, what God says. (Lessons 5, 6)

Salvation – Deliverance from the penalty, power and effects of sin. Preservation from impending evil or disaster. Redemption from the fallen, sinful and degenerate condition of mankind. This salvation was accomplished, for those who believe in Jesus, by His sacrificial death on the cross, His burial and His resurrection from the dead three days later. It is the only possible payment for the penalties of sin. (Lessons 4, 6, 9)

Sanctifies – To set apart as holy, for the purposes of God. To set apart to a sacred purpose. To free and purify one from sin. (Lesson 2)

Science – From the Latin word *scientia*, which means to know, or that which is known. Knowledge attained through study. In order for something to be considered scientific, it must be observable and repeatably testable. (Lessons 1, 2, 3)

Scoffer – One who speaks with contempt or scorn. One who mocks something or someone or who insults something or someone. (Lesson 7)

Second Law of Thermodynamics (also know as the **Law of Increasing Entropy**) – A universal law stating that all systems have a natural and irreversible tendency towards decay and a loss of structure and order. A way of measuring the increase in disorder and the loss of information over time. The observable and unavoidable downhill direction of all systems. (Lesson 4)

Sediments – Matter that settles to the bottom. Fragmentary material deposited by moving water or air. (Lesson 7)

Sin – A transgression against religious or moral law. To violate, neglect or disregard a law or command having divine authority. (Lesson 4)

Sophisticated – Highly complex, developed or advanced. Appealing to the intellect. (Lesson 5)

Space – The region beyond the earth's atmosphere. That area in which all material bodies, such as stars, exist. (Lesson 2)

Technology – The application of science and of technical advances in industry, manufacturing, commerce, culture and the arts. The means by which material things are produced, as in a particular civilization. The totality of the means employed to provide objects necessary for human life and comfort. (Lessons 6, 8)

Temptation – To be encouraged to do wrong by a promise of pleasure or gain. The act of being persuaded to do something evil, unwise or forbidden. (Lesson 4)

Theory – An unproven assumption. A plan or scheme existing in the mind only. A speculative view or opinion of something. A closely reasoned set of ideas supported by established evidence intended

to explain the way something works or the way something appears. (Lesson 1)

Transitional form – The assumed intermediate life forms connecting all life forms from simple to complex, the assumed transition from particles to people. The abrupt appearance in the fossil evidence of every type of plant and animal, fully formed, and without a trace of possible transitional ancestor. It is the dominant feature of all known fossils. (Lesson 7)

Uniformitarianism – A geological belief system that existing and observable processes acting in the same manner, and at the same rates, are sufficient to account for all geologic changes and features of earth. It is contrasted with catastrophism. Uniformitarianism implies that long ages are required for the formation of earth's geologic features. It does not accept that the global Flood of Noah really happened. (Lesson 6)

Universe – All matter, energy and space that exists. The whole creation including all the earth, stars and space. (Lessons 1, 4)

Appendix 2

Bible Text of Genesis 1-12

The Holy Bible, New International Version

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Genesis 1

The Beginning

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

⁶ And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." ⁷ So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. ⁸ God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

⁹ And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it,

according to their various kinds." And it was so. ¹² The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." ²³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Genesis 2

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

² By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Adam and Eve

⁴ This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵ and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶ but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. ⁷ the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

⁸ Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. ⁹ And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰ A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. ¹¹ The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹² (The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.) ¹³ The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴ The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

¹⁸ The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

¹⁹ Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹ So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³ The man said,
"This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called 'woman,'
for she was taken out of man."

²⁴ For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

²⁵ The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Genesis 3

The Fall of Man

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "

⁴ "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

¹¹ And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

¹² The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all the livestock
and all the wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.

¹⁵ And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel."

¹⁶ To the woman he said,
"I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing;
with pain you will give birth to children.
Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you."

¹⁷ To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,'

"Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat of it
all the days of your life.

¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow
you will eat your food
until you return to the ground,

since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return."

²⁰ Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

²¹ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. ²² And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." ²³ So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴ After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

Genesis 4

Cain and Abel

¹ Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man." ² Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. ³ In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. ⁴ But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

⁶ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? ⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

¹⁰ The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. ¹¹ Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

¹³ Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is more than I can bear. ¹⁴ Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."

¹⁵ But the LORD said to him, "Not so; if anyone kills Cain, he will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. ¹⁶ So Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

¹⁷ Cain lay with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch. ¹⁸ To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the father of Methushael, and Methushael was the father of Lamech.

¹⁹ Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah. ²⁰ Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who live in tents and raise livestock. ²¹ His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all who play the harp and flute. ²² Zillah also had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of bronze and iron. Tubal-Cain's sister was Naamah.

²³ Lamech said to his wives,
"Adah and Zillah, listen to me;
wives of Lamech, hear my words.

I have killed a man for wounding me,
a young man for injuring me.

²⁴ If Cain is avenged seven times,
then Lamech seventy-seven times."

²⁵ Adam lay with his wife again, and she gave birth to a son
and named him Seth, saying, "God has granted me another child in
place of Abel, since Cain killed him." ²⁶ Seth also had a son, and he
named him Enosh.

At that time men began to call on the name of the LORD.

Genesis 5

From Adam to Noah

¹ This is the written account of Adam's line.

When God created man, he made him in the likeness of
God. ² He created them male and female and blessed them. And
when they were created, he called them "man."

³ When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own
likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth. ⁴ After Seth
was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters.
⁵ Altogether, Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.

⁶ When Seth had lived 105 years, he became the father of
Enosh. ⁷ And after he became the father of Enosh, Seth lived 807
years and had other sons and daughters. ⁸ Altogether, Seth lived
912 years, and then he died.

⁹ When Enosh had lived 90 years, he became the father of
Kenan. ¹⁰ And after he became the father of Kenan, Enosh lived 815
years and had other sons and daughters. ¹¹ Altogether, Enosh lived
905 years, and then he died.

¹² When Kenan had lived 70 years, he became the father of
Mahalalel. ¹³ And after he became the father of Mahalalel, Kenan

lived 840 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴ Altogether, Kenan lived 910 years, and then he died.

¹⁵ When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he became the father of Jared. ¹⁶ And after he became the father of Jared, Mahalalel lived 830 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷ Altogether, Mahalalel lived 895 years, and then he died.

¹⁸ When Jared had lived 162 years, he became the father of Enoch. ¹⁹ And after he became the father of Enoch, Jared lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁰ Altogether, Jared lived 962 years, and then he died.

²¹ When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. ²² And after he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Altogether, Enoch lived 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

²⁵ When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech. ²⁶ And after he became the father of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷ Altogether, Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died.

²⁸ When Lamech had lived 182 years, he had a son. ²⁹ He named him Noah and said, "He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed." ³⁰ After Noah was born, Lamech lived 595 years and had other sons and daughters. ³¹ Altogether, Lamech lived 777 years, and then he died.

³² After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth.

Genesis 6

The Flood

¹ When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, ² the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. ³ Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years."

⁴ The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went to the daughters of men and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.

⁵ The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. ⁶ The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. ⁷ So the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth—men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them." ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

⁹ This is the account of Noah.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. ¹⁰ Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth.

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³ So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ¹⁴ So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. ¹⁵ This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. ¹⁶ Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle

and upper decks. ¹⁷ I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. ¹⁸ But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹ You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. ²⁰ Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. ²¹ You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them."

²² Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

Genesis 7

¹ The LORD then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. ² Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, ³ and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. ⁴ Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made."

⁵ And Noah did all that the LORD commanded him.

⁶ Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters came on the earth. ⁷ And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood. ⁸ Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, ⁹ male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰ And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.

¹¹ In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great

deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened.
¹² And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.

¹³ On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. ¹⁴ They had with them every wild animal according to its kind, all livestock according to their kinds, every creature that moves along the ground according to its kind and every bird according to its kind, everything with wings. ¹⁵ Pairs of all creatures that have the breath of life in them came to Noah and entered the ark. ¹⁶ The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in.

¹⁷ For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. ¹⁸ The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. ¹⁹ They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. ²⁰ The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than twenty feet. ²¹ Every living thing that moved on the earth perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. ²² Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. ²³ Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.

²⁴ The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

Genesis 8

¹ But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded. ² Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of the heavens had been closed, and the rain had stopped falling from the sky. ³ The water receded steadily from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the water had gone down, ⁴ and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. ⁵ The waters continued to

recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible.

⁶ After forty days Noah opened the window he had made in the ark ⁷ and sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. ⁸ Then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. ⁹ But the dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark. ¹⁰ He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. ¹¹ When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. ¹² He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him.

¹³ By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. ¹⁴ By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷ Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it."

¹⁸ So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. ¹⁹ All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on the earth—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. ²¹ The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

²² "As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest,
cold and heat,
summer and winter,
day and night
will never cease."

Genesis 9

God's Covenant With Noah

¹ Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth. ² The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands. ³ Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.

⁴ "But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it. ⁵ And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man.

⁶ "Whoever sheds the blood of man,
by man shall his blood be shed;
for in the image of God
has God made man.

⁷ As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it."

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: ⁹ "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you ¹⁰ and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

¹² And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: ¹³ I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. ¹⁶ Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth."

¹⁷ So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."

The Sons of Noah

¹⁸ The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) ¹⁹ These were the three sons of Noah, and from them came the people who were scattered over the earth.

²⁰ Noah, a man of the soil, proceeded to plant a vineyard. ²¹ When he drank some of its wine, he became drunk and lay uncovered inside his tent. ²² Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father's nakedness and told his two brothers outside. ²³ But Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it across their shoulders; then they walked in backward and covered their father's nakedness. Their faces were turned the other way so that they would not see their father's nakedness.

²⁴ When Noah awoke from his wine and found out what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵ he said,
"Cursed be Canaan!
The lowest of slaves
will he be to his brothers."

²⁶ He also said,
"Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem!
May Canaan be the slave of Shem."

²⁷ May God extend the territory of Japheth;
may Japheth live in the tents of Shem,
and may Canaan be his slave."

²⁸ After the flood Noah lived 350 years. ²⁹ Altogether, Noah
lived 950 years, and then he died.

Genesis 10

The Table of Nations

¹ This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, Noah's sons,
who themselves had sons after the flood. The Japhethites

² The sons of Japheth:
Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech and Tiras.

³ The sons of Gomer:
Ashkenaz, Riphath and Togarmah.

⁴ The sons of Javan:
Elishah, Tarshish, the Kittim and the Rodanim. ⁵ (From
these the maritime peoples spread out into their territories by their
clans within their nations, each with its own language.) The Hamites

⁶ The sons of Ham:
Cush, Mizraim, Put and Canaan.

⁷ The sons of Cush:
Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah and Sabteca.
The sons of Raamah:
Sheba and Dedan.

⁸ Cush was the father of Nimrod, who grew to be a mighty
warrior on the earth. ⁹ He was a mighty hunter before the LORD;
that is why it is said, "Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before the
LORD." ¹⁰ The first centers of his kingdom were Babylon, Erech,
Akkad and Calneh, in Shinar. ¹¹ From that land he went to Assyria,

where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah ¹² and Resen, which is between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city.

¹³ Mizraim was the father of
the Ludites, Anamites, Lehabites, Naphtuhites,
¹⁴ Pathrusites, Casluhites (from whom the Philistines came) and
Caphtorites.

¹⁵ Canaan was the father of
Sidon his firstborn, and of the Hittites, ¹⁶ Jebusites,
Amorites, Girgashites, ¹⁷ Hivites, Arkites, Sinites, ¹⁸ Arvadites,
Zemarites and Hamathites.

Later the Canaanite clans scattered ¹⁹ and the borders of
Canaan reached from Sidon toward Gerar as far as Gaza, and then
toward Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha.

²⁰ These are the sons of Ham by their clans and languages, in
their territories and nations. The Semites

²¹ Sons were also born to Shem, whose older brother was
Japheth; Shem was the ancestor of all the sons of Eber.

²² The sons of Shem:
Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud and Aram.

²³ The sons of Aram:
Uz, Hul, Gether and Meshech.

²⁴ Arphaxad was the father of Shelah,
and Shelah the father of Eber.

²⁵ Two sons were born to Eber:
One was named Peleg, because in his time the earth was
divided; his brother was named Joktan.

²⁶ Joktan was the father of
Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, ²⁷ Hadoram,
Uzal, Diklah, ²⁸ Obal, Abimael, Sheba, ²⁹ Ophir, Havilah and Jobab.
All these were sons of Joktan.

³⁰ The region where they lived stretched from Mesha toward Sephar, in the eastern hill country.

³¹ These are the sons of Shem by their clans and languages, in their territories and nations.

³² These are the clans of Noah's sons, according to their lines of descent, within their nations. From these the nations spread out over the earth after the flood.

Genesis 11

The Tower of Babel

¹ Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. ² As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

³ They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

⁵ But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. ⁶ The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

⁸ So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. ⁹ That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

From Shem to Abram

¹⁰ This is the account of Shem.

Two years after the flood, when Shem was 100 years old, he became the father of Arphaxad. ¹¹ And after he became the father of Arphaxad, Shem lived 500 years and had other sons and daughters.

¹² When Arphaxad had lived 35 years, he became the father of Shelah. ¹³ And after he became the father of Shelah, Arphaxad lived 403 years and had other sons and daughters.

¹⁴ When Shelah had lived 30 years, he became the father of Eber. ¹⁵ And after he became the father of Eber, Shelah lived 403 years and had other sons and daughters.

¹⁶ When Eber had lived 34 years, he became the father of Peleg. ¹⁷ And after he became the father of Peleg, Eber lived 430 years and had other sons and daughters.

¹⁸ When Peleg had lived 30 years, he became the father of Reu. ¹⁹ And after he became the father of Reu, Peleg lived 209 years and had other sons and daughters.

²⁰ When Reu had lived 32 years, he became the father of Serug. ²¹ And after he became the father of Serug, Reu lived 207 years and had other sons and daughters.

²² When Serug had lived 30 years, he became the father of Nahor. ²³ And after he became the father of Nahor, Serug lived 200 years and had other sons and daughters.

²⁴ When Nahor had lived 29 years, he became the father of Terah. ²⁵ And after he became the father of Terah, Nahor lived 119 years and had other sons and daughters.

²⁶ After Terah had lived 70 years, he became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran.

²⁷ This is the account of Terah.

Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran. And Haran became the father of Lot.²⁸ While his father Terah was still alive, Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, in the land of his birth.²⁹ Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah; she was the daughter of Haran, the father of both Milcah and Iscah.³⁰ Now Sarai was barren; she had no children.

³¹ Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Haran, they settled there.

³² Terah lived 205 years, and he died in Haran.

Genesis 12

The Call of Abram

¹ The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

² "I will make you into a great nation
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

³ I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you."

⁴ So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran.

⁵ He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

⁶ Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

⁸ From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. ⁹ Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

Abram in Egypt

¹⁰ Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe.

¹¹ As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know what a beautiful woman you are. ¹² When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. ¹³ Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you."

¹⁴ When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that she was a very beautiful woman. ¹⁵ And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace.

¹⁶ He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, menservants and maidservants, and camels.

¹⁷ But the LORD inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram's wife Sarai. ¹⁸ So Pharaoh summoned Abram. "What have you done to me?" he said. "Why didn't you tell me she was your wife? ¹⁹ Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!" ²⁰ Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.

Appendix 3

Eternal Life With God Through Jesus

1. How to have eternal life

A. What you need to know

God created everything in the universe to display how wonderful He is. He created people to glorify and enjoy Him forever. No one can ever know true happiness until they know Him personally.

God is not like us. He is so different in power, character and knowledge that people could never understand Him without His help.

The problem is this. Mankind is sinful because sin was brought on the human race by Adam (the first man). People are sinful because they commit sins everyday. Sinfulness makes people unable to get close to God.

This problem was solved by God Himself. God sent His only Son, Jesus, who never sinned, to pay the penalty for sinful people by dying in their place. His gift of forgiveness is given to each one who acknowledges their sinfulness and makes Him the Lord of their lives. Through Jesus' resurrection from the dead, believers can live a new life.

God did this because He loves you. The Bible says:

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

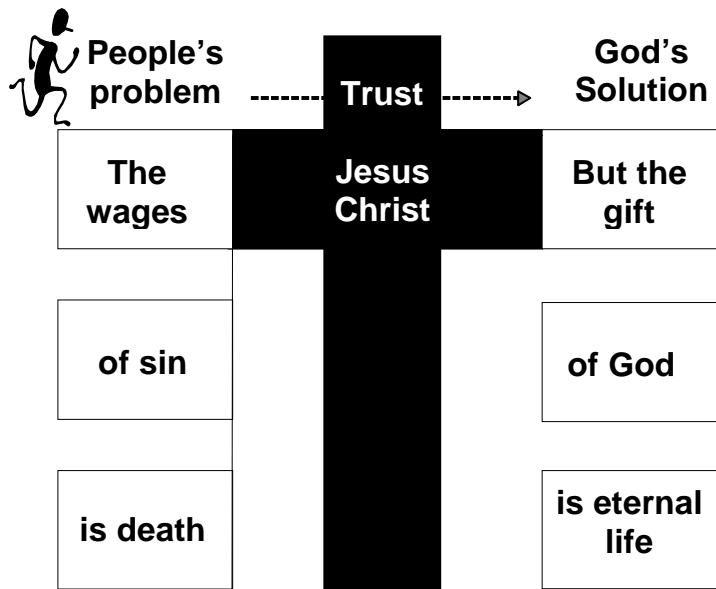
⁸*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)*

Do you want this gift? Do you want this opportunity to receive eternal life?

B. What you need to do

The following table provides a guide to coming to know Jesus.

Path to lead you to having eternal life	
Admit you are a sinner and turn away (repent) from your sins.	
	²³ <i>For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)</i>
	¹⁹ <i>Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord. (Acts 3:19)</i>
Believe that Jesus died for your sins and that God raised Him from the dead.	
	⁹ <i>That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)</i>
Pray and ask Jesus to come into your heart and control your life.	
	¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. (John 1:12-13)
	¹³ <i>For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13)</i>
<p>Dear God,</p> <p>I know I am a sinner and that I need your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus died for my sins and that you raised Him from the dead. I want to turn from my sins. I invite you, Jesus, to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.</p>	



**For the wages of sin is death, but
the gift of God is eternal life in
Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 6:23)**

Appendix 4

Equippers Group International

EGI's mission

To provide user-friendly Biblical training and materials to under-resourced parts of the Body of Christ so God's people are equipped to be fully functioning followers and servants of Jesus Christ.

²And the things which you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will be qualified to teach others. (2 Timothy 2:2)

The need

The church seems to be growing fastest in places where believers have little opportunity for formal training. This quote is from the founders of EGI:

After 30 years on the foreign mission field, we have observed that the majority of grassroots leaders in the emerging church do not have access to seminaries or Bible schools. Many churches have pastors without any Biblical training whatsoever. EGI was created to provide practical training and materials uniquely designed to meet these urgent needs.

*Rev. Joseph (Joe) & Jo Hughes
Founders, Equippers Group International*

There must be a way to reach these fellow believers and equip them with the tools they so desperately need to grow and multiply.

The vision

EGL's vision is simple and direct: Equip leaders for effective ministry that equips others for multiplication. This vision focuses on these efforts:

- Provide training in each group's own language.
- Provide practical training related to essential elements of church doctrine and discipline.
- Provide believers with Biblically-based materials to equip them for the Christian journey and use in equipping others.

To meet the need, essential Christian materials must be created that are concise, comprehensive, easy to translate and easy to teach. They should cover the entire range of needs - from basic doctrine and disciplines to church leadership and mobilization. Wherever the Holy Spirit opens a door, partnerships can be made with existing church networks in target areas. EGL works with them to provide training materials, facilitate train-the-trainer sessions and do training as requested.

The strategy

EGL's strategy to implement the vision is:

- Create Biblically-based training materials that can be freely translated and distributed. EGL has created a series of books for a training system called the Getting Equipped™ Series.
- Develop relationships with leaders of church networks in target areas.
- Strategize with national contacts to determine how EGL can best help believers in that country.
- Partner with leaders, set priorities and develop a plan to bring needed training to that region of the world.

- Celebrate the growth. Release each church to fulfill its unique purpose through local leadership.
- Implement the plan. Often, an EGI representative will conduct the initial training session for pastors and church leaders. This “train-the-trainer” session launches EGI’s series and materials and begins the process of multiplication and mobilization.
- Measure effectiveness through follow-up with church leadership. This assures accountability for each leader and continual improvement and feedback for EGI.

The Holy Spirit is our greatest Partner and Leader in this effort. To the best of our God-given wisdom and ability, we will move whenever and wherever He directs.

⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. ⁸The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. ⁹For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. (1 Corinthians 3:7-9)

The Getting Equipped™ Series

The Getting Equipped™ Series is EGI’s response to this urgent need for materials. It consists of training manuals that cover the major elements of Christian doctrine, discipline and leadership. While comprehensive in scope, the Getting Equipped™ Series follows guidelines that make it relatively easy to translate and read. It provides a practical, Biblical path that takes believers from early conversion to church leadership. Key points that make this series highly desirable are:

- Biblically based
- Written without church clichés and western cultural references
- Practical and doctrinally balanced
- Each lesson includes application exercises
- User-friendly design

The Getting Equipped™ Series is constantly being expanded with new topics, publications and translations as the need arises. Contact EGI for the current list of publications.

Published manuals

(See EGI's website, www.equippersgroup.org, for current translations.)

Facilitator's Guide to the Getting Equipped™ Series

Currently available in English, Gujarati, Russian and Spanish.

Equipped Through Basic Beliefs Of Christianity (2004)

Currently available in English, Kiswahili, Russian and Spanish.

Equipped Through Bible Study Skills (2005)

Currently available in English, Russian and Spanish.

Equipped Through Genesis: The Book of Beginnings (2006)

Currently available in English and Russian.

Equipped Through Missions and Church Planting, A Practical Guide (2006)

Currently available in English.

Manual topics under construction

- Harmony with God
- Stewardship
- The Christian Family

Translations

As each manual is published in English, it will also be translated into other languages as the opportunity arises. Contact EGI for the current list of translations.

EGI contact information

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