

THE MESSAGE OF GENESIS

Introduction – This is the first book in the Hebrew and Christian Bible. The word “genesis” means beginnings. *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth* (Genesis 1:1). It is about human beginnings and the people of Israel’s beginnings with the patriarchs. Eleven times the text is punctuated by *this is the account of....* or *this is the generations of....*

A. Restoration of Creation and Humanity’s Original Purpose

Genesis 1:2

Genesis 1:27-28

B. Humanity’s Rebellion and Its Consequences

1. Adam and Eve ignore God’s prohibition at the serpent’s suggestion and are cursed with exile and death.
2. Humans’ violence and wickedness escalated until God intervened with a great flood preserving only Noah’s family.
3. Humanity’s rebellion continued with the prideful tower of Babel.

C. God Began Again by a Covenant with Abraham and His Descendants

Genesis 12:1-3

D. The Genesis story concludes with the miraculous preservation of Israel’s family in Egypt from a catastrophic famine.

Genesis 45:5-7

Conclusion – Genesis is about God’s intentions to bless His image bearers. God refuses to give up on rebellious humanity and binds Himself to them through covenant promises.

Hebrews 1:1-3

Hebrews 9:15