

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Genesis 1:1 to Exodus 17:16





From God's Creation to God's Nation

Introduction

Verse by verse lessons from Genesis 1:1 to Exodus 17:16

This will be an in-depth look at the first four dispensations. The teacher will apply a literal, grammatical, historical approach to interpretation and show that Adam was created approximately 6000 years ago and was the most intelligent man, other than the God-man Jesus, to live on earth. Modern man is the result of 6000 years of genetic mutations and is devolving not evolving. Adam and Eve were perfectly designed intellectual beings created in God's very image. Though the results of sin contaminated the human race, pre-flood man was intelligent and creative. Following the worldwide flood, Noah and his recent offspring created the foundations for our modern day cultures. Out of those sinful cultures, God called out one to carry forth His message. Starting with Abram and finishing with Moses, the lessons will bring forth the faithful yet fragile characters in establishment of the Nation of Israel. From creation to Mt. Sinai, the lessons will show God's sovereign power and His glorious grace!

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Review of Preliminary Classes

Chaos or Cosmos?

What Is Life?

What Is Man?

Buried Clues.

Flood or Fiction?

How Old Is Earth?

Dinosaurs!

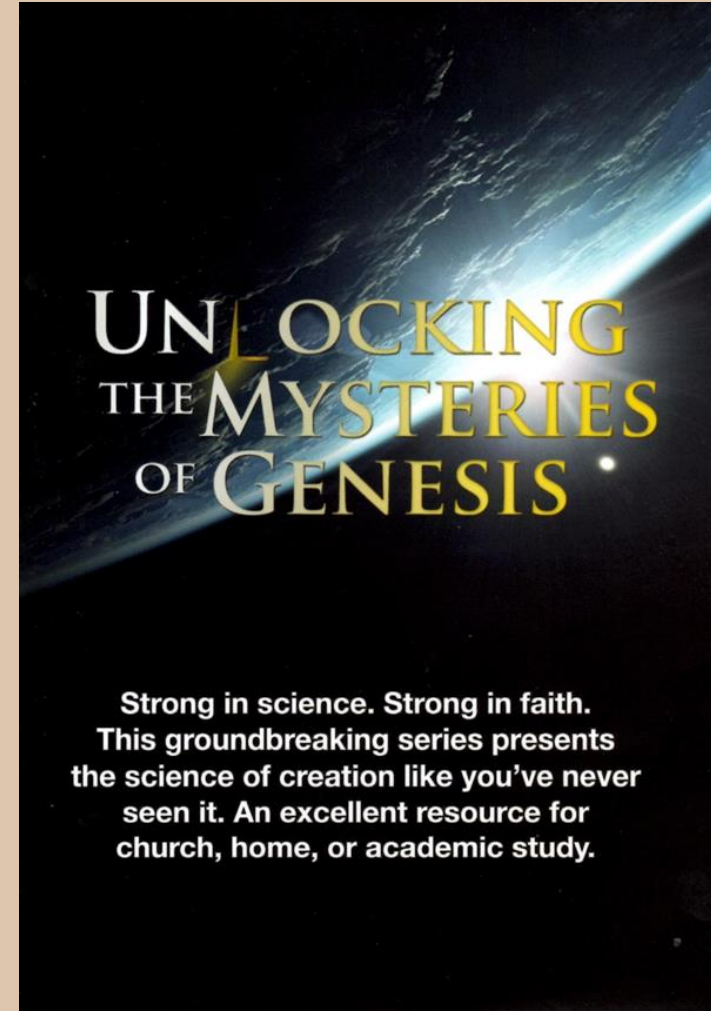
The Ice Age.

Rise of Civilization.

Origin of the Universe.

Uniqueness of Earth.

Science and Scripture.



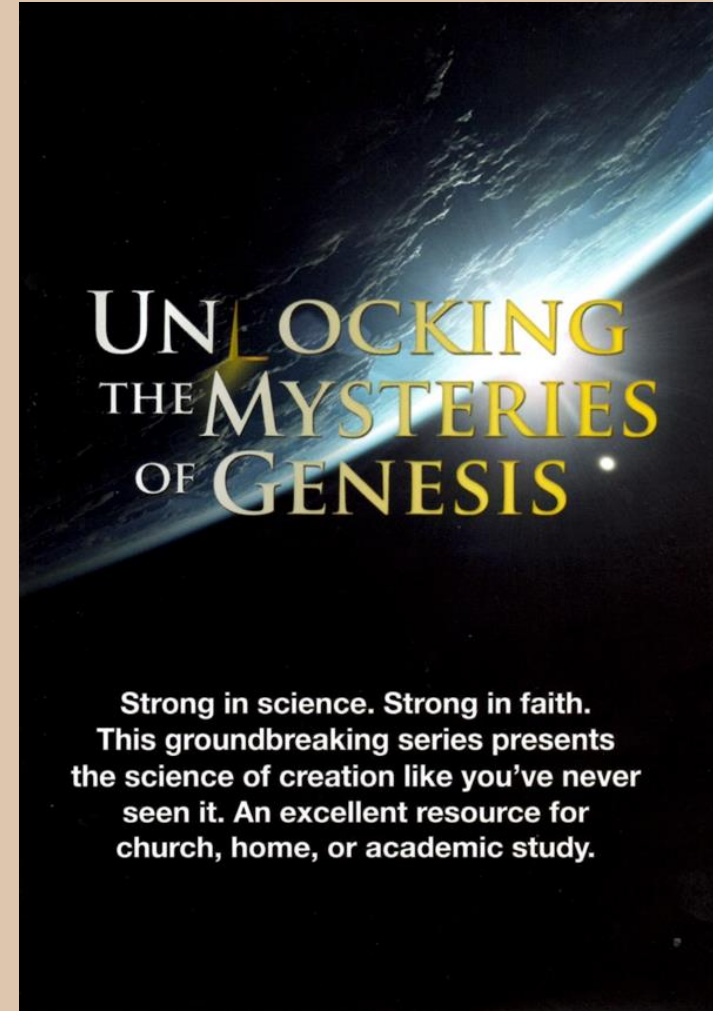


From God's Creation to God's Nation

Review of Preliminary Classes

The website and ordering information is:

<http://www.unlockingthemysteriesofgenesis.org/>



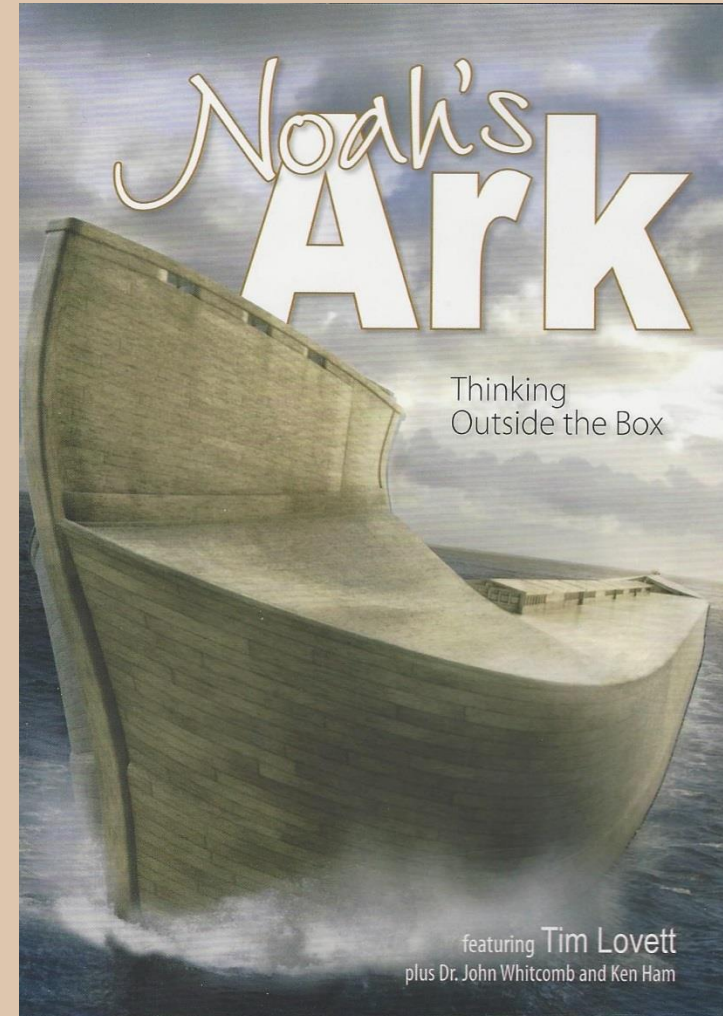
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Review of Preliminary Classes

Literal Worldwide Flood / Literal Noah's Ark

	Assyrio-Babylonia 1	Assyrio-Babylonia 2	Persia	Syria	Asia Minor	Greece	Egypt	Italy	Lithuania	Russia	China	India	Cree (Canada)	Cherokee (United States)	Papagoa (Mexico)	Aztecs (Mexico)	Peru	Leeward Islands	Fiji Islands	Hawaii	
Man in transgression (Gen. 6:5-6, 11-12)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Divine destruction (Gen. 6:7, 13, 17; 7:4, 23)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Favored family (Gen. 6:8, 18)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Ark provided (Gen. 6:14-16; 7:1, 7-9)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Destruction by water (Gen. 6:17; 7:4, 10-24)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Humans saved (Gen. 6:18; 7:1-7, 13-16, 23)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Animals saved (Gen. 6:19-20; 7:2-3)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Universal destruction (Gen. 7:21-23)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Landing on mountain (Gen. 8:4)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Birds sent out (Gen. 8:7-12)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Survivors worship (Gen. 8:20)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full
Divine favor on saved (Gen. 9:1-17)	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full	Full

Full representation of biblical idea
 Partial representation of biblical idea

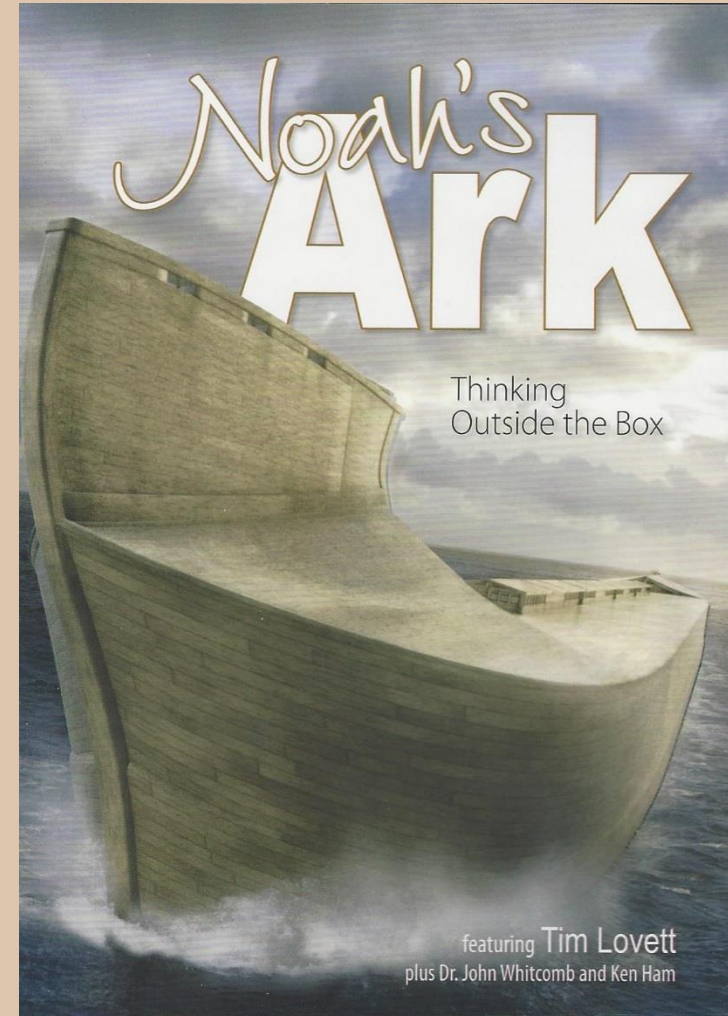


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Review of Preliminary Classes

The website and ordering information is:

<https://answersingenesis.org/store/>



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Review of Preliminary Classes

Natural Selection

Genetics

The Origin of Life

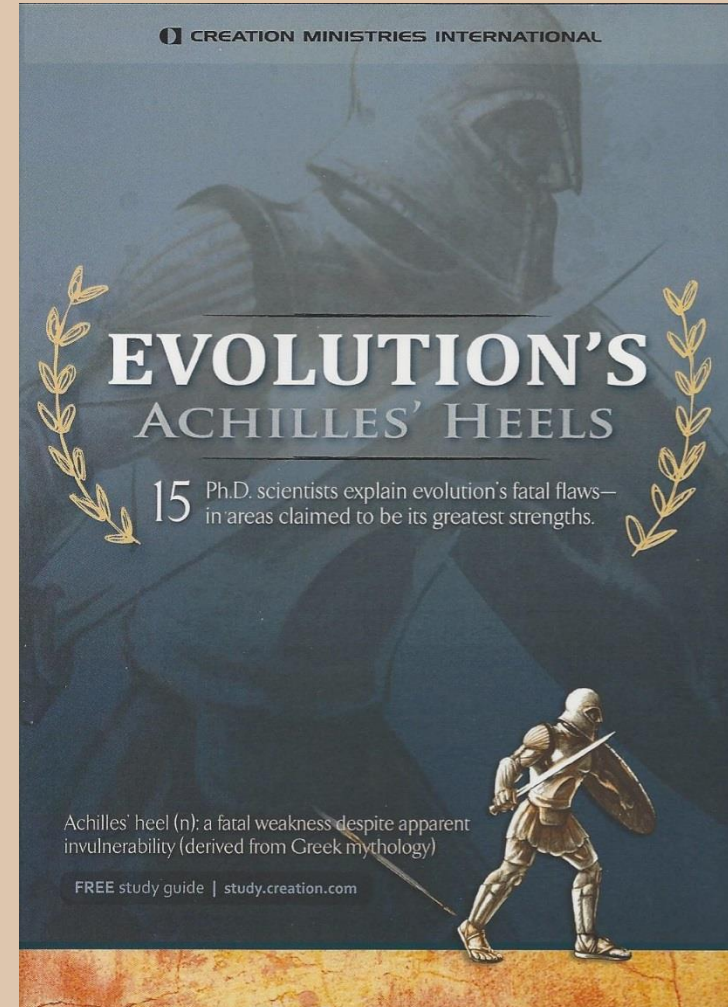
The Fossil Record

The Geologic Column

Radiometric Dating

Cosmology

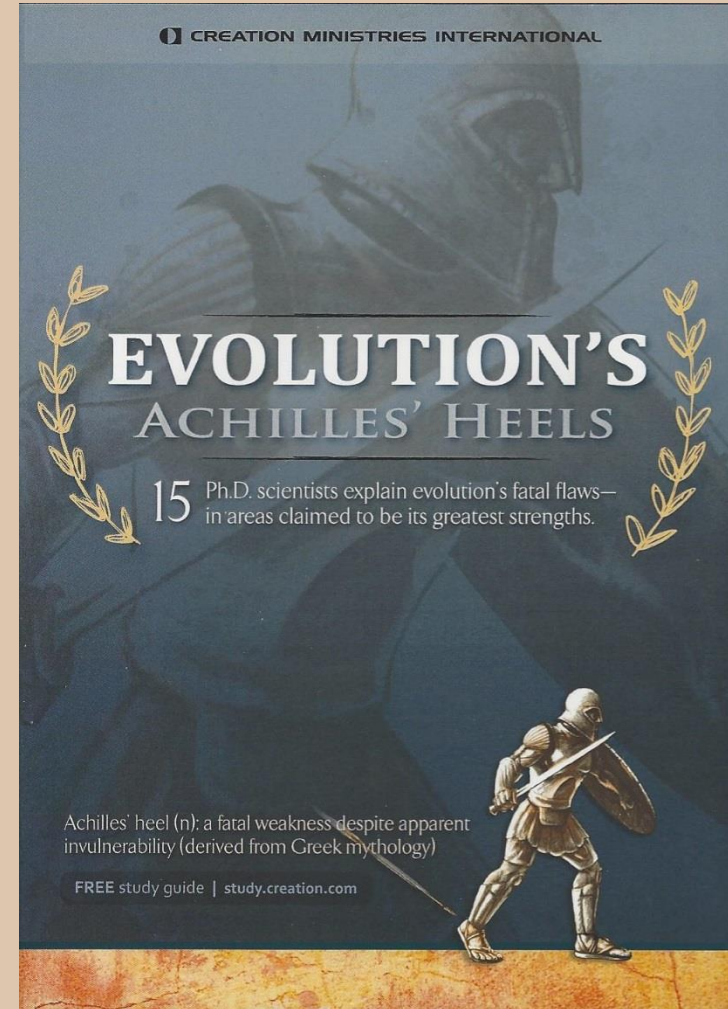
Ethical Implications



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Review of Preliminary Classes

The website and ordering information is:
<http://creation.com/evolutions-achilles-heels>





From God's Creation to God's Nation

Why Study Genesis?

“In recent years, it has become commonplace for both humanists and churchmen to sneer at anyone who takes Genesis 1–11 as historical. I recall a prominent pastor of some 50 years ago who expressed shock that anyone “intelligent and educated” as myself would take Genesis 1–11 as actually an historical record when it was so “primitive.” When I was an expert witness in church and state trials, at least once a state attorney sought to discredit me for my view of Genesis.

Well, I have routinely returned the “compliment.” For anyone to believe in the myth of evolution is to accept trillions of miracles to account for our cosmos. I simply lack that kind of faith, in spontaneous generation, in the development of something out of nothing, the blind belief in the miraculous powers of chance, and more. Darwinism is irrationality and insanity compounded.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Why Study Genesis?

“I hold that the evolutionists are the naive believers and irrationalists compounded. They violate the scientific canons they profess by their fanatical and intolerant belief in evolution.

Genesis 1–11 is basic to Biblical theology. The church needs to re-study this text to recognize its truth and its important place in theology. It troubles me not at all to hear the “reproach” and “infamy” of affirming creation as truth. It troubles me greatly that so many churchmen disbelieve Genesis 1–11 and have joined the ranks of the “cultured despisers” of Christianity. So much the worse for them.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Why Study Genesis?

“In the Old Testament, for example, Adam is mentioned by name in the Books of Deuteronomy, Job, and I Chronicles; and Noah is mentioned in I Chronicles, Isaiah, and Ezekiel. Abraham is mentioned by name in fifteen books of the Old Testament and eleven of the New. Jacob is named in twenty books (other than Genesis) of the Old Testament, and in at least seventeen of the New Testament.

In a special sense, every mention of the people or nation of Israel is an implicit acknowledgment of the foundational authority of Genesis, since Israel was the new name given to Jacob, and his sons became the twelve tribes of Israel. Apart from the Book of Genesis, there is no explanation for Israel, nor consequently for all the rest of the Old Testament.”

A glass globe with a white base sits on a wooden surface. To its left is a brass compass with its lid open, showing the dial. The background is a warm, orange-brown color.

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Why Study Genesis?

“The New Testament is, if anything, even more dependent on Genesis than the Old. There are at least 165 passages in Genesis that are either directly quoted or clearly referred to in the New Testament. Many of these are alluded to more than once, so that there are at least two hundred quotations or allusions to Genesis in the New Testament.”



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Why Study Genesis?

“It is significant that the portion of Genesis which has been the object of the greatest attacks of skepticism and unbelief, the first eleven chapters, is the portion which had the greatest influence on the New Testament. Yet there exist over one hundred quotations or direct references to Genesis 1–11 in the New Testament. Furthermore, every one of these eleven chapters is alluded to somewhere in the New Testament, and every one of the New Testament authors refers somewhere in his writings to Genesis 1–11. On at least six different occasions, Jesus Christ Himself quoted from or referred to something or someone in one of these chapters, including specific reference to each of the first seven chapters.”

A glass globe on a wooden surface next to a brass compass.

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Why Study Genesis?

“Furthermore, in not one of these many instances where the Old or New Testament refers to Genesis is there the slightest evidence that the writers regarded the events or personages as mere myths or allegories. To the contrary, they viewed Genesis as absolutely historical, true, and authoritative.”



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Why Study Genesis?

“It is quite impossible, therefore, for one to reject the historicity and divine authority of the Book of Genesis without undermining, and in effect, repudiating, the authority of the entire Bible. If the first Adam is only an allegory, then by all logic, so is the second [last] Adam. If man did not really fall into sin from his state of created innocence, there is no reason for him to need a Savior. If all things can be accounted for by natural processes of evolution, there is no reason to look forward to a future supernatural consummation of all things.

If Genesis is not true, then neither are the testimonies of those prophets and apostles who believed it was true. Jesus Christ Himself becomes a false witness, either a deceiver or one who was deceived, and His testimony concerning His own omniscience and omnipotence becomes blasphemy. Faith in the gospel of Christ for one's eternal salvation is an empty mockery.”

A glass globe on a wooden surface next to a brass compass.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Why Study Genesis?

“It is an interesting study, profitable and suggestive, to trace the great doctrines of the Bible in this first Book. They are all found somewhere in Genesis, either in typical foreshadowings or in direct words. Here, too, we may discover the dispensational and prophetic truths of the Bible in germ. Genesis 3:15 is the prediction out of which the rest of prophecy has been developed. The entire New Testament in its doctrinal statements rests upon this Book. It is quoted there as the Word of God scores of times. If the revelations of Genesis, especially the opening chapters, the supreme foundation, if these chapters were myths, the entire New Testament would have to be given up as un-authoritative. Indeed, the great doctrines in Romans, starting from the fact that man is a fallen being and lost, would be just as much myths, if the fall of man were a myth. The Lord Jesus Christ has put His seal to this great Book.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Initial Questions

The Title of the Book.

Who Wrote the Book?

What do we know about the author?

When was it written?

Where was it written from?

Who was it written to?

Why was it written?

What is it about?

How does the writer accomplish his goal?

What makes the book different?

What is inside (outline)?

A glass globe on a wooden surface next to a brass compass.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

The Titles of Genesis.

The Hebrew title of the book is the initial word *berē'shît*, translated “in the beginning.” The English title “Genesis” was derived from the Greek translation of *tōledōt*, the key word of the book. In Genesis 2:4a, the Septuagint translation is, “This is the book of the *geneseōs* of heaven and earth.”



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Who Wrote the Book?

Exodus 17:14 (NASB95)

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this in a book as a memorial and recite it to Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven."



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Who Wrote the Book?

Exodus 24:4, 7 (NASB95)

Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. Then he arose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel... Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!"



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Who Wrote the Book?

Exodus 34:27 (NASB95)

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel."

A glass globe and a brass compass are shown on a wooden surface. The globe is partially covered by a white cloth. The compass is open, showing its face with numbers and a needle. The background is a warm, orange-brown color.

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Who Wrote the Book?

Numbers 33:2 (NASB95)

Moses recorded their starting places according to their journeys by the command of the LORD, and these are their journeys according to their starting places.

A glass globe and a pocket watch on a wooden surface.

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Who Wrote the Book?

Deuteronomy 31:9 (NASB95)

So Moses wrote this law and gave it to the priests, the sons of Levi who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all the elders of Israel.

A glass globe and a pocket watch on a wooden surface.

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Who Wrote the Book?

Deuteronomy 31:24 (NASB95)

It came about, when Moses finished writing the words of this law in a book until they were complete,

A glass globe with a white base sits on a wooden surface. To its left is a brass compass with its lid open, showing the needle and markings. The background is a warm, orange-brown color.

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Who Wrote the Book?

Matthew 8:4 (NASB95)

And Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one; but go, show yourself to the priest and present the offering that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

A glass globe with a white base and a brass compass with a white face and gold markings are on a wooden surface. The globe shows a map of the world.

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Who Wrote the Book?

Matthew 19:8 (NASB95)

He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way.

A glass globe and a pocket watch on a wooden surface.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Who Wrote the Book?

Luke 2:22 (NASB95)

And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Who Wrote the Book?

Luke 16:27–31 (NASB95)

“And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, that you send him to my father’s house— for I have five brothers—in order that he may warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’ “But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ “But he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!’ “But he said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

A glass globe with a white base and a brass compass are shown on a wooden surface. The globe is partially filled with water and has a small globe inside it. The compass is open and shows the cardinal directions.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Who Wrote the Book?

John 5:46 (NASB95)

“For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me.



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Who Wrote the Book?

John 7:19–23 (NASB95)

“Did not Moses give you the Law, and yet none of you carries out the Law? Why do you seek to kill Me?” The crowd answered, “You have a demon! Who seeks to kill You?” Jesus answered them, “I did one deed, and you all marvel. “For this reason Moses has given you circumcision (not because it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and on the Sabbath you circumcise a man. “If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath so that the Law of Moses will not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made an entire man well on the Sabbath?”



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Who Wrote the Book?

Acts 3:22 (NASB95)

“Moses said, ‘THE LORD GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN; TO HIM YOU SHALL GIVE HEED to everything He says to you.

A glass globe with a white base and a brass compass are on a wooden surface. The globe is transparent and shows some internal details. The compass is brass and has a white face with black markings.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Who Wrote the Book?

Romans 10:5 (NASB95)

For Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on law shall live by that righteousness.



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Who Wrote the Book?

Romans 10:19 (NASB95)

But I say, surely Israel did not know, did they? First Moses says, "I WILL MAKE YOU JEALOUS BY THAT WHICH IS NOT A NATION, BY A NATION WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WILL I ANGER YOU."



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Who Wrote the Book?

1 Corinthians 9:9 (NASB95)

For it is written in the Law of Moses, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING." God is not concerned about oxen, is He?

A glass globe with a white base and a brass compass are shown on a wooden surface. The globe is partially filled with water and has some reflections on its surface. The compass is open and shows its face with numbers and a needle.

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Who Wrote the Book?

Hebrews 7:14 (NASB95)

For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.



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Who Wrote the Book?

“The Authorship of Genesis. Both Scripture and tradition attribute the Pentateuch to Moses. This was enough to satisfy most people in the synagogue and the church for ages that Genesis, the first book of the Pentateuch, could be safely ascribed to Moses.

Indeed no one would have been better qualified to write the book. Since “Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians” (Acts 7:22), his literary skills would have enabled him to collect Israel’s traditions and records and to compose the work. His communion with God at Horeb and throughout his life would have given him direction for this task. Genesis provided the theological and historical foundation for the Exodus and the covenant at Sinai.”



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Who Wrote the Book?

“The evidence that Moses wrote the Pentateuch is conclusive if one believes that Jesus Christ spoke the truth when He attributed authorship to Moses (Matt. 19:8; Mark 7:10; Luke 18:29–31; 20:37; 24:27; John 7:19). Jesus Christ did not specifically say that Moses wrote Genesis, but in our Lord's day the Jews regarded the Pentateuch (Torah) as a whole unit. They recognized Moses as the author of all five books. Consequently they would have understood what Jesus said about any of the five books of Moses as an endorsement of the Mosaic authorship of them all.”



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Who Wrote the Book?

“It is suggested in this commentary, therefore, that Moses compiled and edited earlier written records that had been handed down from father to son via the line of the patriarchs listed in Genesis. That is, Adam, Noah, Shem, Terah, and others each wrote down an individual account of events which had occurred in his own lifetime, or concerning which he in some way had direct knowledge. These records were kept, possibly on tablets of stone, in such a way that they would be preserved until they finally came into Moses’ possession. He then selected those that were relevant to his own purpose (as guided by the Holy Spirit), added his own explanatory editorial comments and transitional sections, and finally compiled them into the form now known as the Book of Genesis.”



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Who Wrote the Book?

“It is probable that these original documents can still be recognized by the key phrase: “These are the generations of....” The word “generation” is a translation of the Hebrew toledoth, and it means essentially “origins,” or, by extension, “records of the origins.” There are eleven of these divisions marked off in Genesis:

- (1) “These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth” (Genesis 2:4).**
- (2) “This is the book of the generations of Adam” (Genesis 5:1).**
- (3) “These are the generations of Noah” (Genesis 6:9).**
- (4) “Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth” (Genesis 10:1).**
- (5) “These are the generations of Shem” (Genesis 11:10).**



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Who Wrote the Book?

- (6) “Now these are the generations of Terah” (Genesis 11:27).
- (7) “Now these are the generations of Ishmael” (Genesis 25:12).
- (8) “And these are the generations of Isaac, Abraham’s son” (Genesis 25:19).
- (9) “Now these are the generations of Esau, who is Edom” (Genesis 36:1).
- (10) “And these are the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in Mount Seir” (Genesis 36:9).
- (11) “These are the generations of Jacob” (Genesis 37:2).

Assuming that these toledoth divisions represent the original documents from which Genesis was collected, there is still the question whether the specific names are to be understood as subscripts or as superscripts, or some of each. Are they headings applied to the material following, or closing signatures of that which precedes?”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Dating Moses?

At Dallas Theological Seminary, the standard dating system is from Eugene H. Merrill's *Kingdom of Priests: A History of Old Testament Israel*, starting with the 1 Kings 6:1 date and working backwards.

1 Kings 6:1 (NASB95)

Now it came about in the four hundred and eightieth year after the sons of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

“The year 1446 has already been proposed as the date of the exodus. On this basis proceeded our discussion of the Hyksos and New Kingdom periods as well as the setting of the Joseph narratives. Since the integrity of what has been said up to this point is dependent on an early date rather than the later one to which most scholarship subscribes, it is vital that a careful case be made for the early date.

There are two principal biblical data that directly touch on the problem. The first is the statement of 1 Kings 6:1 that the exodus preceded the founding of Solomon's temple by 480 years. Granting for now that Solomon began to build in 966, [24] simple mathematics suggests that the exodus took place in 1446.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

“[24] Edwin R. Thiele, *The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1965), 28; see also 29, 55. We are accepting as our basic starting point Thiele's authoritative reconstruction of the chronology of the divided monarchy.”



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Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

Edwin R. Thiele (10 September 1895 – 15 April 1986) was an American Seventh-day Adventist missionary in China, an editor, archaeologist, writer, and Old Testament professor. He is best known for his chronological studies of the Hebrew kingdom period.

“A native of Chicago, he graduated from Emmanuel Missionary College (which became Andrews University in 1960) in 1918 with a BA degree in ancient languages. After two years of work as home missionary secretary for the East Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, he left in 1920 for mission service in China. During his 12-year work in China, he was an editor and manager for the Signs of the Times Publishing House in Shanghai.



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Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

“After returning to the United States, Thiele received an MA degree in archaeology from the University of Chicago in 1937. He then joined the religion faculty of Emmanuel Missionary College, while continuing his doctoral work at the University of Chicago. He obtained a PhD degree in biblical archaeology in 1943. His doctoral dissertation, later published as *The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings*[1] is widely regarded as the definitive work on the chronology of Hebrew kings.[2] He traveled extensively throughout the Middle East in the course of his research.”



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Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

“In addition, Thiele also authored a popular book on Christianity, *Knowing God*.^[3] After his death, his widow, Margaret, completed his study of the Book of Job entitled *Job and the Devil*.^[4] In this work, Thiele argues that Leviathan (and Behemoth) are linked to Near Eastern myths for chaos or evil. Hence, Thiele suggests, Job pictures God struggling with Evil as lying behind Job's suffering.

From 1963 to 1965, he served as Professor of Antiquity at Andrews University. After retiring from teaching in 1965, he moved to California where he continued to write. He died in St. Helena, California in 1986. He is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in Berrien Springs, Michigan.”

A glass globe on a wooden surface next to a pocket watch.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

“CHRONOLOGY IS THE BACKBONE of history. Absolute chronology is the fixed central core around which the events of the nation must be correctly grouped before they may assume their exact positions in history and before their mutual relationships may be properly understood. Without exact chronology there can be no exact history. Until a correct chronology of a nation has been established, the events of that nation cannot be correctly integrated into the events of neighboring states. If history is to be a true and exact science, then it is of fundamental importance to construct a sound chronological framework about which may be fitted the events of states and the international world.”

A glass globe on a wooden surface next to a pocket watch.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

“Of particular interest and importance is the history of the Hebrew nation. If the establishment of a correct chronology is important for any nation, then it is important for the Hebrews. Never will the manifold details of the Old Testament writings be correctly integrated into each other, never will the events of the Old Testament record be properly fitted into the events of the Near Eastern world, and never will the vital messages of the Old Testament be thoroughly or correctly understood until there has 'been established a sound chronology for Old Testament times.”



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Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

“There is, of course, only one chronology that is correct chronology. Between the absolute chronology of the Hebrews and that of their neighbors there can be no conflict. If biblical chronology seems to be at variance with Assyrian chronology, it may be because of errors in the Hebrew records, but it may also be because the data preserved in those records are not correctly understood.

If the chronological materials recorded in the Hebrew Scriptures are basically sound, they will agree with whatever is sound in the annals of neighboring states. And if a pattern of Hebrew chronology can be established from biblical sources that will agree with the chronological pattern of neighboring states as built on the historical materials of those nations, and that will be in agreement with the required astronomical data, then we may be certain that we are on the track of that correct and absolute chronology that has long been the goal of students of ancient history. The agreement of sources also assures us that we are dealing with sources that are basically sound.”



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Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

“When the student has at his disposal chronological materials so dependable as the Assyrian eponym list and the Ptolemaic canon, he may have complete assurance that he has a solid foundation on which to build. And if, in turn, he finds a chronological pattern for some other nation that is in full accord with that of Babylon and Assyria as established by the evidence of Ptolemy and the limmu lists, he may have confidence that his pattern is entirely accurate.”

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Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

It appears that Thiele in his doctoral dissertation, *The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings*, made the chronologies of Assyrian eponym list and the Ptolemaic Canon the standard of measurement and adjusted the Biblical chronology in order to conform with the historical record.

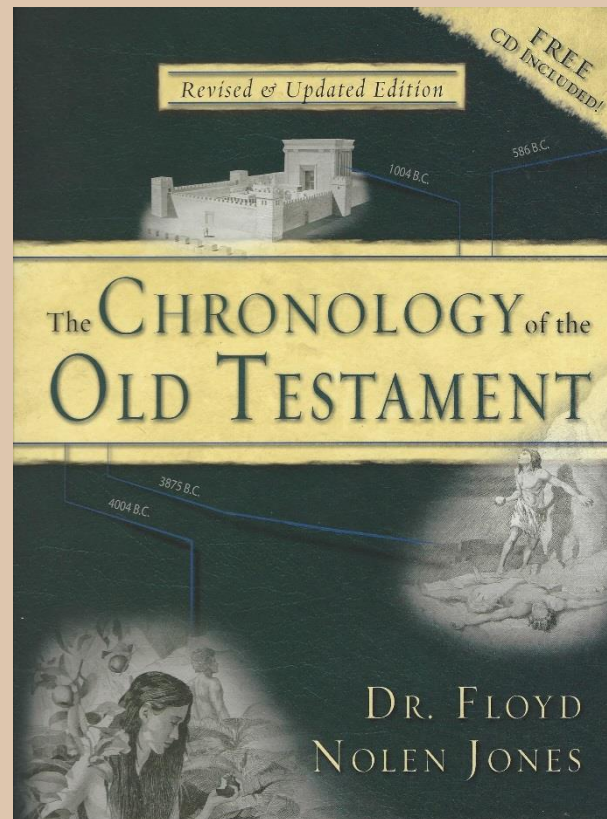


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Dating Moses?

Building of the Temple

Therefore, in this course we will use the chronology set forth in *The Chronology of the Old Testament* by Dr. Floyd Nolen Jones





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Dating Moses?

Floyd Nolen Jones is a Christian author. He has recorded a bible study for twenty years,[1] and has written several books on Christianity. He is an apparent Young Earth Creationist who supported a beginning age to life on earth of 4004 B.C.[2], consistent with Ussher's chronology, in his 1993 book, "The Chronology of the Old Testament, available at AnswersInGenesis.org.[3] Jones worked 14 years as a Paleontologist, Geophysicist, District Geophysicist, Geophysical Manager, and Regional Geophysicist with Texaco and Tenneco. He was selected to attend Division Manager School shortly before resigning his scientific career to pursue Biblical studies. He has a Ph.D. and Th.D. with majors in Geology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Theology, and Education from six institutions, graduated Magna Cum Laude, and is an ordained minister for the Southern Baptist Convention. According to his website, "Dr. Jones twice served as adjunct Professor at Continental Bible College in Brussels, Belgium and was Chairman of the Department of Biblical Chronology at Pacific International University." [4] He and his family (wife, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren) live in Texas."



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Dating Moses?

Methodology

“As to the aforementioned Assyrian Eponym Canon, the royal inscriptions of the Assyrian and Babylonian records, the solar eclipse of Bur-Sagale and the astronomical calculations and eclipse identifications of Claudius Ptolemy, the present study carefully examined these and other profane data (the author's having come under the discipline of astronomy at the university). Where conflict in synchronization arose between biblical data based on its own internal evidence and extra biblical sources, solutions were sought but never at the expense of Scripture. At every point, the integrity, veracity and accuracy of the Word of God were maintained. If synchronization were not possible under those conditions, the secular was rejected as inaccurate. If it conformed, it was incorporated. All too often, the profane material has been found to be a staff of a bruised reed which has been leaned upon and broken, piercing those who would so incline (2 Kings 18:21; Isa. 36:6).”

A glass globe on a wooden surface next to a pocket watch.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Dating Moses?

Methodology

“It must be seen that the Bible, even taken merely as a history book, is still the most remarkably unique book at man's disposal because it provides a system of mathematical "checks and balances" which maintains accuracy in chronology via synchronism. Consequently, the study of Bible chronology, especially if approached from a believing frame of reference, is a most powerful apologetic tool and weapon in the defense of the written Word. As a faith builder, it is second only to the study of Scripture itself. Many "discrepancies" and paradoxes (apparent errors) simply vanish when the data is charted on paper. Thus, this undertaking is an attempt to recover the credibility which has been lost over time to the gainsayers.”

From God's Creation to God's Nation

What do we know about the author?

Moses

Born 1571 BC, Died 1452 BC (120 years old)

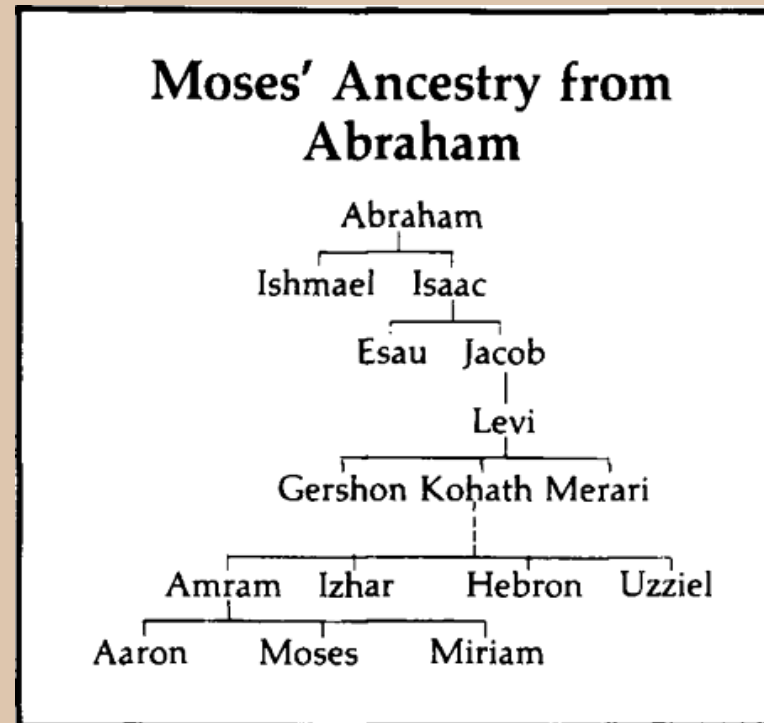
Son of Amran and Jochebed (Ex. 2:1-10)

The Life of Moses

Birth to 40 yrs. old – Raised a prince

40 – 80 yrs. old – Lived as a shepherd

80 – 120 yrs. old Lived as Lawgiver of Israel





From God's Creation to God's Nation

When was it written?

“If one accepts Mosaic authorship, as most conservative evangelicals do, the date of composition of Genesis must be within Moses’ lifetime (~~ca. 1525-1405 B.C.~~) [ca. 1571-1452 B.C.] This book was perhaps originally intended to encourage the Israelites to trust in their faithful, omnipotent God as they anticipated entrance into the Promised Land from Kadesh Barnea or from the Plains of Moab. Moses may have written it earlier to prepare them for the Exodus, but this seems less likely.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Where was it written from?

“The Book of Genesis was written and compiled by Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai. Biblical and extrabiblical evidence points to this fact. Jesus clearly assumes Mosaic authorship of Genesis in the statement, “Moses therefore gave you circumcision” (Acts 15:1). Since the reason for circumcision is mentioned only in Genesis 17, Jesus had to be referring to Moses’ compilation of the story. Second, both Jewish and Christian tradition unanimously agree with this biblical testimony: Moses compiled and wrote the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible, in the Wilderness of Sinai.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Who was it written to?

“Also, Genesis was composed to provide answers to pre-Conquest Israel’s most pressing questions: Who are we? Where did we originate? Where are we headed? What is God’s purpose for us in history and in the ages to come? The rest of the Bible relates in one way or another to these and other questions.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Why was it written?

“For Moses does not mention things previously unheard of, but writes down for the first time facts that the fathers had communicated, as from hand to hand, over many generations to their children. Can we imagine that humankind was placed on the earth in such a way so that they were ignorant of their own origin? No sane person doubts that Adam was well-instructed about all these things. Was he really dumb afterwards? Were the holy patriarchs so ungrateful that they suppressed all such instruction? Did Noah, warned by a divine judgment in such a memorable way, neglect to transmit it to posterity? And we know that long before Moses' time all the people were acquainted with the covenant that God had entered into with their fathers. Therefore, we should not doubt that the creation of the world as it is described here was already known through the ancient and constant tradition of the fathers. Yet since it is so easy for God's truth to be corrupted by men, it pleased the Lord to commit the history to writing, so that its purity would be preserved. Moses, therefore, has established the credibility of that doctrine that is contained in his writings and that, by the carelessness of men, might otherwise have been lost.”

A glass globe on a wooden surface next to a brass compass.

From God's Creation to God's Nation

Why was it written?

“The Book of Genesis gives vital information concerning the origin of all things—and therefore the meaning of all things—which would otherwise be forever inaccessible to man. The future is bound up in the past. One’s belief concerning his origin will inevitably determine his belief concerning his purpose and his destiny. A naturalistic, animalistic concept of beginnings specifies a naturalistic, animalistic program for the future. An origin at the hands of an omnipotent, holy, loving God, on the other hand, necessarily predicts a divine purpose in history and an assurance of the consummation of that purpose. A believing understanding of the Book of Genesis is therefore prerequisite to an understanding of God and His meaning to man.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Why was it written?

“Genesis supplies the historical basis for God’s covenant with His people. This can be traced through the entire Pentateuch, for, as Moses Segal states, “The real theme of the Pentateuch is the selection of Israel from the nations and its consecration to the service of God and His Laws in a divinely appointed land. The central event in the development of this theme is the divine covenant with Abraham and its ... promise to make his offspring into the people of God and to give them the land of Canaan as an everlasting inheritance”.

Within the development of this theme, Genesis forms an indispensable prologue to the drama that unfolds in Exodus. As a literary and explanatory pendant to the summons to go forth from Egypt to the Promised Land, Genesis demonstrates that such a command was in fulfillment of a covenant with Abraham and Isaac, and with Jacob, the founding father of those tribes. Wilhelm M.L. DeWette stated that Genesis was the foundation of the theocracy, showing that the people of God were gradually separated from others because their whole history was penetrated by a clear and constant plan of divine government of the world, to which individual circumstances were subordinated.”



From God's Creation to God's Nation

Why was it written?

“Genesis provides the historical basis for the rest of the Bible and the Pentateuch, particularly the Abrahamic Covenant. Chapters 1–11 give historical background essential to understanding that covenant, and chapters 12–50 record the covenant and its initial outworking. The Abrahamic Covenant continues to be the basic arrangement by which God operates in dealing with humanity throughout the Pentateuch and the rest of the Bible.”