

Bible Study Notes on Genesis 1-11

Ed Knorr's Bible study notes, used for in-home Bible Studies during 2003-2004, with minor updates thereafter. Some of this material comes from the following sources:

- "The Genesis Record" by Henry Morris, 1976 (13th printing, Oct. 1989). The same author wrote the excellent commentary on Revelation called "The Revelation Record".
- "The Zondervan NIV Study Bible", copyright 2002
- "The Revised & Expanded Answers Book" by Ken Ham, Jonathan Sarfati, and Carl Wieland, edited by Don Batten, 1990
- "Creation Conference: 3 PowerPoint Presentations by Ken Ham", CD-ROM, 2003, copyright Answers in Genesis
- "Creation" magazine, publisher: Answers in Genesis, and later, Creation Ministries International (CMI)
- Various other sources (Hank Hanegraaff, Dave Hunt, Grant Jeffrey, Chuck Missler, etc.)
- Apologetics research at <http://www.equip.org>
- Creation research at <http://www.creation.com>

November 13, 2003

Genesis Chapter 1. Background of the Book of Genesis

Who? Moses wrote it, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (God)

What? It's about creation, and about the first few millennia here on Earth, including the history of Noah/The Flood, and of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob ... to the time of the enslavement in Egypt

When? Genesis was written around 1446-1406 BC

Where? concerns the universe, and early history on Earth

Why? To provide revelation, history, instruction, and hope from God. We get a first hand report of the creation from someone (i.e., God) who was there at the beginning of creation.

"Genesis" means "origin". The Book of Genesis is unique among all faiths. It is the only true and reliable account of the origin of all the basic entities of the universe and of life:

- Origin of the universe: Many other faiths rely on myth. Only Genesis attempts to account for the ultimate origin of space, time, and matter. Note: Science confirms that the Universe had a beginning. If it had a beginning, it had to have a *beginner* (i.e., a source).
- Origin of Order and Complexity
- Origin of the Solar System, Atmosphere, and Hydrosphere
- Origin of Life and Man
- Origin of Marriage
- Origin of Evil
- Origin of Language
- Origin of Government
- Origin of Culture

- Origin of Nations
- Origin of Religion
- Origin of the Chosen People
- Origin of the Universe (e.g., a beginning, the anthropic principle)
- Purpose of the Universe
- Purpose of Life
- The Origin of the Major Animal Groups called Phyla (that appeared early in the fossil record, and tend to decrease in number, rather than increase as time goes on)
 - The Patterns in the Fossil Record (and rarity of transitional forms)
 - The Development of Intelligence in Humans
 - What Might be the Creator's Purpose in Creating Intelligence and Volition (Free Will) in His Creation?
- How Would the Creation Communication with us?

According to the Bible	According to Darwinian Evolution
Day 1: Creation of Earth, Time, Space, and Light	
Day 2: Atmosphere	Early earth was molten, not covered with water
Day 3: Dry Land, Plants, Trees	Marine organisms existed before land plants, and then birds
Day 4: Sun, Moon, Stars	Earth was created <i>after</i> the sun & stars
Day 5: Sea- & Flying- Creatures	Ocean life was created <i>before</i> flowering plants and fruit trees
Day 6: Land Animals, Insects, Man	Land animals existed long <i>before</i> man; insects before some types of flowering plants
Day 7: God Rested (Sabbath)	No understanding of God

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

Exodus 20:11 For 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.

Mark 10:6 "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' (Note: There was no separation of billions of years.)

Creation-Based Universe	Evolution-Based Universe
Foundational Understanding of God, Sin, and Death	No Understanding of God, Sin, and Death
Jesus: Death and the Resurrection	No Understanding of Jesus and the Resurrection
Bible is Truth	Bible is "Foolishness" (1 Cor. 1:23)
Christ will Return = Hope	No Christ to Return

The 7 C's of History:

Creation: Genesis

Corruption: in the Garden of Eden, Death Enters the World

Catastrophe: Noah's Flood

Confusion: at the Tower of Babel

Christ: His Virgin Birth, His Life

Cross: Christ's Death & Resurrection

Consummation: New Heavens and Earth, Hope for Eternity

Genesis Provides the Answers to These Important Questions:

- Where did God come from?
- Where did Cain get his wife?
- Did dinosaurs co-exist with man?
- Were there "ape-men"?
- What do the fossils tell us?
- What is the age of the Earth?
- Was there a Noah's Ark? Could it hold all the animals? Where might it be today?

Genesis Chapter 2 – Notes for November 20, 2003 Bible Study

God rested on the 7th day. Did He need to rest? Was this a pattern for people to follow? What does it mean to enter God's rest?

Darwinian evolution argument: "The universe needed billions of years to become stable before life could evolve." If we believe this, then how do we know that the new Heavens and Earth [Rev. 21-22, Isaiah 65:7] that God will create (still future) will be "stable enough"? If God created the original Heavens and Earth in 6 days, imagine what he has prepared for us over the past few thousands of years ... or could do again!

"Eden" is synonymous with "paradise" and is related to the word "bliss" or "delight" in Hebrew, or to a Mesopotamian word meaning "a plain". [Source: *NIV Study Bible*]

Comment from Chuck Missler: How much space in the Bible is devoted to the creation? The first few chapters in Genesis, some in Isaiah, and so on ... **but** the vast amount of space in the Bible is related to his relationship with man, the reconciliation of man to God, the holiness of God, the Son of God, the future, the relationship of humans to other humans ("Love your neighbour as yourself"), etc. What did it cost God to create the universe? Could He do it again without too much effort? What did it cost God to die for us? Does He need to do it again?

What does it mean to you that the Creator of the universe decided to die for his own created beings—to pay the price of redemption demanded by the holy and just God—to pay a penalty that you or I could not possibly pay? Hebrews 9:22b says, "Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness."

How was Adam created?

God also gave the breath of life to animals (Gen. 1:30). What's the difference then, between man and animals?

- Man was created in God's image.
- Man has a unique relationship both to God (as His servants) and to the other creatures (as God's stewards over them).

Where was the **Garden of Eden**? Quite possibly in southern Iraq, in the area around today's Persian Gulf. A river flowed from Eden; these four rivers resulted from it: the Pishon, Gihon, Tigris, and Euphrates. Note that these rivers were from *before* Noah's Flood, and may well be different from the Tigris/Euphrates Rivers that we know today (i.e., rivers that flow through Iraq—modern-day Babylon). It is possible that after the flood, the locals gave these names to the new major rivers flowing through there.

- Why did God place Adam in the Garden of Eden?
- What one rule did God give Adam?
- Besides taking care of the Garden of Eden, what other task did God give Adam?
- Why did God create Eve?
- How did God create Eve?

Quotations from Henry Morris in “The Genesis Record”:

“If the Bible were somehow expurgated of the book of Genesis (as many people today would prefer), the rest of the Bible would be incomprehensible. It would be like a building without a ground floor, or a bridge with no support.” (p. 17)

“no archeological discovery has ever controverted a Biblical reference.” (p. 24)

“the writers of the New Testament, and Jesus Christ Himself, accepted the Genesis record as literal history.” (p. 31)

Parallels between the original world (Genesis) and the eternal world (Revelation):

Division of light & darkness (1:4)	No night there (21:25)
Division of land & sea (1:10)	No more sea (21:1)
Rule of sun and moon (1:16)	No need of sun or moon (21:23)
Man in a prepared Garden (2:8,9)	Man in a prepared city (21:2)
River flowing out of Eden (2:10)	River flowing from God’s throne (22:1)
Gold in the land (2:12)	Gold in the city (21:21)
Tree of Life in the midst of the Garden (2:9)	Tree of Life throughout the city (22:2)
Bdellium and the onyx stone (2:12)	All manner of precious stones (21:19)
God walking in the Garden (3:8)	God dwelling with His people (21:3)

Parallels between the cursed world (Genesis) and the eternal world (Revelation):

Cursed ground (3:17)	No more curse (22:3)
Daily sorrow (3:17)	No more sorrow (21:4)
Thorns & thistles (3:18)	No more pain (21:4)
Sweat on the face (3:19)	Tears wiped away (21:4)
Eating herbs of the field (3:18)	Twelve manner of fruit (22:2)
Returning to the dust (3:19)	No more death (21:4)
Evil continually (6:5)	Nothing that defiles (21:27)
Coats of skins (3:21)	Fine linen, white & clean (19:14)
Satan opposing (3:15)	Satan banished (20:10)
Kept from the Tree of Life (3:24)	Access to the Tree of Life (22:14)
Banished from the Garden (3:23)	Free entry to the city (22:14)
Redeemer promised (3:15)	Redemption accomplished (5:9,10)

Analysis of: Gen. 1:1: “In the beginning, God created the Heavens and the Earth.”

- “God”: Hebrew “Elohim”: a plural name with a singular meaning (note the Trinity)
- “Created”: Hebrew “bara”: call into existence out of nothing (*ex nihilo*); man can “make” things, but he cannot create “out of nothing”
 - Note: “man” (Hebrew *adam*) is related to “earth” (Hebrew *adamah*) since man’s body was formed from the elements of the earth (Gen. 2:7).
- “Heaven”: the component of *space* (outer space, inner space, atmospheric space) in the space-mass-time continuum
- “Earth”: the component of *matter* (mass) in the universe—“At the time of initial creation, there were no other planets, stars, or other material bodies in the universe; nor did any of them come into being until the fourth day.” (p. 41)

- “In the beginning”: the beginning of *time*—“The term *matter* includes energy, and must function in both time and space.” (p. 41)
- Note also John 1:1 which says, “In the beginning was the Word ...”
 - “Although the universe had a beginning, the Word was already there”

The Gap Theory?

Some Christians believe that there was a *long gap of time* between Gen. 1:1 and 1:2, to allow great periods of time to correspond to modern geology, whereby each geological age is dated by some fossil record. However, this puts suffering and death billions of years *before* the sin of Satan and Adam. Furthermore, if God really wanted people to believe in long ages instead of 6 literal days, He would have said so, to avoid subsequent confusion.

The Bible says that death only came into the world when Adam brought sin into the world (Rom. 5:12 and 1 Cor. 15:21). Scripture says “We know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now” (Rom. 8:22) because of the sin of Adam. Furthermore, it’s not just human beings that suffer because of this, but all of creation! (Think about natural disasters such as tornados, floods, earthquakes ... animals attacking other animals, animals attacking humans ... poisonous plants, etc. God did not create disorder in the universe. Any disorder is the result of sin. The bottom line is that the sin of Adam affected the whole creation. Note that, at the time of creation, God said that his creation was “good” and “very good”.

“Darkness upon the face of the deep”: “The physical universe, though created, was as yet neither formed nor energized, and light is a form of energy.” (p. 50) The “deep” refers to water. Elements or molecules existed at this point, but it appears that electromagnetic energy or gravity did not.

The Spirit of God moved over the waters. This movement back and forth probably suggests energization (vibration, light waves, heat waves, sound waves, etc.) (p. 52).

“Although not mentioned in Genesis 1, it is probable that another act of creation took place on this first day. Sometime prior to the third day of creation, and possibly on the first day, a multitude of angels were created, since they were present when the “foundations of the earth” (solid land on day 3?) were laid (Job 38:4-7) ... Angels are called the ‘host of heaven’ and so could not have been created before the existence of heaven.” (p. 57)

Water below the firmament (sky), and water above the firmament: a water canopy.

- Hence, a global greenhouse, uniformly warm, pleasant temperature over the whole Earth. Plus, it would filter out ultraviolet and cosmic radiation from space.
- “With nearly uniform temperatures, great air-mass movements would be inhibited and windstorms would be unknown.”
- With no global air circulation, the hydrologic cycle [evaporation, condensation, back to the sea] did not exist and there could be no rain.
- Side note: The content of water in our present atmosphere, if all turned to rain, would cover the earth only to a depth of about one inch. (pp. 60-61)

Stars were used “for signs” and “seasons”. What might this mean? Various star groupings may have been used for godly signs, but the zodiac signs may have soon been corrupted into pagan mythology.

We don't know the engineering behind the stars and light paths from earth. The stars we see at night are many "light years" of distance from the earth. A light year is the *distance* that light can travel in a year. It probably did *not* take billions of years for the light from these stars to travel to the Earth. Two possible explanations are: (a) the light trails could have been created at the same time as the stars (i.e., since God can make a star, He can make the photons (light-trail) that go with it), (b) the speed of light may have been much higher in the past than today, possibly infinite. Other possible explanations may exist. The distant starlight problem is a problem for both Darwinian evolutionists and creationists.

After days 1-7 of creation, there was nothing that was *not* good in all of creation: no disease, earthquakes, floods, disorder, death, or sin. "Even Satan was still good at this point; his rebellion and fall must have come later." (p. 79) The 7th day of creation does not extend in time right through to today, contrary to the idea of a long age/day that some people claim. Scripture says God *rested* on the 7th day, not *is resting*.

God provided the "breath of life" to animals and man. "The spirit of man, like the angelic and demonic spirits, and like God Himself, is an eternal spirit; whereas the spirit of an animal appears to cease to exist when the body dies (Ecc. 3:21) and goes back to the earth." (p. 74). Humans have an eternal spirit (think of spirit as being "the image of God").

"Although God Himself may have no physical body, He designed and formed man's body to enable it to function physically in ways in which He Himself could function". (p. 74)

Note that animals were created first, with a soul (soul = mind, will, and emotions); then came Adam. Scripture says Adam become a living soul *when* God gave him the breath of life. *But if* Adam came from apes (like evolution claims), then he already had a living soul (which animals have). "The widespread belief that people evolved from apelike ancestors is not only refuted by Scripture but also by all facts of science. The 'missing links' of Darwin's day are still missing today." (p. 94)

Genesis 1:10 was written in past tense, and then Genesis 1:11-14 was written in present tense, suggesting the possibility that Adam wrote part of Genesis, and it was eventually passed down to Moses. Note that the following passage speaks of rivers **before** the Flood, that is, long before Moses (who is believed to have written Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy).

GEN 2:10-14 "A river **watering** the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. The name of the first **is** the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there **is** gold. (The gold of that land **is** good; aromatic resin and onyx **are** also there.) The name of the second river **is** the Gihon; it **winds** through the entire land of Cush. The name of the third river **is** the Tigris; it **runs** along the east side of Asshur. And the fourth river **is** the Euphrates."

Genesis 3: The Fall of Man

The fact that Adam and Eve felt “shame at what they had done showed that there was hope for their salvation. When sinners feel no guilt or shame, there is no remedy but judgment and condemnation.” (p. 116)

We don't know how long Adam and Eve were walking in (sin-free) fellowship with God. It could have been some time.

Because of sin, curses were applied to Satan, Eve, Adam, and creation itself. “We know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now” (Rom. 8:22). After the fall, all of creation suffered the effects of Adam and Eve's sin. It was after this time that mutations occurred in organisms, that is, random changes in the molecular structure of genetic systems, leading to many inherited diseases and degeneracies that we're familiar with today—and even causing the extinction of some species.

The *tree of life* is the other important tree mentioned in Genesis; the first was the *tree of knowledge of good and evil*. We don't know what kind of tree it was, or what its fruit or leaves were like. In Revelation 2:7, 21:1,5 and 22:1-2, we also read of the tree of life.

GEN 2:9 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**.

GEN 3:22 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."

GEN 3:24 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**.

REV 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the **tree of life**, which is in the paradise of God.

REV 22:2 down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the **tree of life**, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

REV 22:14 "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the **tree of life** and may go through the gates into the city.

REV 22:19 And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the **tree of life** and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

Genesis 4: The Lost World

Abel brought a sacrifice from the flock, but Cain brought the work of his own hands (in turn a product of the land which God had cursed). Cain's sacrifice was rejected, but God had probably communicated to Cain (previously) what a correct sacrifice was.

v. 7: God said that Cain would be accepted if he corrected his error, and obeyed His word

Cain probably felt that God showed unjust favouritism to Abel, and so he probably despised Abel because of it. Can you think of any cases in your life where favouritism caused problems a negative effect?

Cain killed Abel. Later, Cain had remorse, but not repentance.

Upon death, Abel [probably] becomes the first occupant of Sheol: the part of the Earth where the spirits of the dead go, until resurrection (either Heaven or Hell). For believers since the time of Christ, believers' spirits go directly to paradise (and resurrection is still to come). Remember, resurrection is the physical reuniting of the soul/spirit with the body—a perfected body, not subject to sin, disease, decay, etc.

Why did man live longer before the flood (e.g., Adam: 930 years, Methuselah 969 years)? Possible reasons are:

- more favourable climate and hyperbaric pressures (higher atmospheric pressure, higher oxygen content)
- water canopy with radiation-filtering capabilities (blocking out dangerous rays)
- absence of mutation-producing radiation
- purity of the human genetic system and its bloodstream in the early generations since Adam, with few mutant genes (today there are lots of mutant genes ... mutations started after the Curse, and continue today, with more and more loss of genetic information as the generations and years increase today)
- few disease-producing organisms

What could the population have been like in the first 1650 years or so since Adam (i.e., from Adam until the Flood)?

- start with 2 people
- assume, conservatively, that each family had 3 sons and 3 daughters, and they had 3 sons and daughters, and so on; traditions suggests Adam & Eve may have had about 30 children
- assume conservatively, that a generation is 80 years
- within 800 years, this gives about 120,000+ people (exponential or geometric growth)
- brother-sister marriages (or close relative marriages) were OK in the early years because of few genetic mutations back then
- within about 1650 years, this gives about 7 billion people
- at about 1650 years after Adam, the Flood began (i.e., the Flood probably occurred around 2345 BC)
- By the way, early man was very likely very intelligent, and probably technologically advanced—certainly not “cave man” style exhibiting little intelligence.

Chapter 5: The Generations of Adam

The Generations of Adam (quite likely without “gaps” in the record—some Christians have tried to read “gaps” into the text, but this is not necessary).

Patriarch	Approximate Meaning of Name	Year of Birth	Age at Birth of Next Patriarch	Year of Death
Adam	man	1	130	930
Seth	appointed one	130	105	1042
Enos	mortal frailty	235	90	1140
Cainan (or Kenan)	smith (or sorrow)	325	70	1235
Mahalaleel	the blessed God (or God be praised)	395	65	1290
Zared (or Jared)	shall come down (descent)	460	162	1422
Enoch	dedication (or teaching)	622	65	n/a (translated in 987)
Methuselah	when he dies, judgment	687	187	1656 (year of Flood)
Lamech	conqueror (or despairing)	874	182	1651
Noah	rest (or comfort)	1056	500	2006

Notes:

- Noah was born 14 years after Seth
- This brings Noah to about the time of Abraham.
- Chuck Missler points out that the meanings of the names (column 2, above) can be woven into a sentence: “Man [is] appointed mortal sorrow[;] the blessed God shall come down[,], teaching [that] His death shall bring [to] the despairing[,], comfort or rest.”
- Enoch did not die. God took him away (to Heaven).
 - Hebrews 11:5: “By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.”
 - It is possible that Enoch and Elijah—the only two people who did not experience death (up to our current generation)—will be the 2 witnesses of Revelation 11.
 - Enoch prophesied about halfway between Adam and Abraham. Elijah prophesied about halfway between Abraham and Christ.
- Assuming that Methuselah’s name implies “when he dies, the Flood will come”, then the fact that Methuselah is the oldest man mentioned in the Bible tells us something about God’s character:
 - 2 Peter 3:9: “The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”

Chapter 6: The Days of Noah

Around 32 AD, Jesus Christ said the following about the Last Days, that is, about the times preceding His second coming:

MATTHEW 24:36-42 "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and 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. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come."

LUKE 17:26-29 "Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all. "It was the same in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all."

Several points worth mentioning about the days of Noah:

- Unrighteousness filled the land; man's thoughts were constantly evil.
- Noah was a preacher of righteousness (indeed a model citizen), yet not one person (apart from his family unit of 8) chose to respond to God.
- Although Noah probably had a very large extended family, only 8 chose to be saved.
- The Ark was a protective vehicle of escaping from the judgment to come on the people on Earth.
- God Himself closed the door of the Ark, and kept the contents of the Ark from destruction.
- There may have been billions of people on the Earth in the Days of Noah.

Some open questions for discussion:

- Are we living in times anywhere near as bad as "the days of Noah"?
 - Is there great unrighteousness in the land?
 - Are people's thoughts constantly evil? (e.g., TV, movies, music, Internet, drugs, thefts, ethics/integrity problems in government, people knowing right from wrong)
- Will God once again shelter believers from the destruction that is to come on the Earth?
 - Many Christians believe that the eschatological model of the Rapture is hinted at in the above Scripture verses? (Not all Christians agree, however).
- Are we doing our best to get people saved, even if no one responds to the message?
- Is society expecting Christ to return anytime soon? Are we?

The Nephilim

GEN 6:1-5 When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. 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." 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. 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.

1PET 3:18-20 For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when 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,

2PET 2:4-5 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell [specifically, Tartarus, and not the ordinary place of departed spirits], putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment; if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others;

JUDE 6-7a And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home--these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day. In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion.

The first few verses of Genesis 6 are controversial. The "sons of God" is a term referring to angels that rebelled. Furthermore, the Nephilim means "fallen ones" (i.e., fallen angels, those who rebelled with Satan, but kept not their boundaries). There are two major viewpoints with respect to these verses:

Viewpoint 1:

- The verses speak of demons having sexual relations with women, and whose offspring were a race of mutants (giants).
- Presumably, the idea was that Satan and his demons wanted to corrupt the genetic stock, so that mankind could not be saved, or perhaps so that the Saviour could not be born.
- These were especially wicked demons that disobeyed the boundaries or parameters than God had set for them with respect to the human condition on Earth, and this class of demons needed to be taken out of the action, that is, "kept in chains for everlasting destruction".
 - Satan and the rest of the demons, however, would still be free to observe and tempt mankind.
- If this is a true story, then might this be an explanation for the origin of fairy tales, myths, giants, Roman/Greek demigods, etc.?
- Might this interaction between man and demons be a reason for the formation of giants, and for widespread corruption and violence?
- Only Adam could be called a son of God (note that believers today are "adopted" as sons of God (heirs of God), according to New Testament documentation).
- Josephus, Jewish interpreters, early Christian writers, the Greek translators of the Septuagint, and the writer of the ancient apocryphal book of Enoch, all believed that *bene elohim* ("sons

of God”) referred to angels. The three other times that *bene elohim* is used (all in the ancient book of Job—likely the oldest book in the Bible), it refers exclusively to the angels.

Viewpoint 2:

- The verses do not describe demons having sexual relations with women. There is some other explanation for the expression “the sons of God”. For example, some Christians believe that the sons of Seth married the daughters of Cain, in a form of mixed marriage. (But then, why the giants?)
- It may be impossible for angels to have sexual relations.
 - However, note that angels manifested themselves in the times of Abraham, and even ate with Abraham.
 - Note that angels manifested themselves physically in the days of Sodom, and apparently were attractive enough to cause evildoers of the town to lust after them.
 - In the book of Hebrews, Paul writes that Christians have at times “entertained angels unawares” (i.e., fellowshiped with people that were really angelic beings rather than humans).
- Hank Hanegraaff remarks that if angels could turn themselves into men, then why couldn’t they also masquerade as the resurrected Christ (in order to deceive everyone)?
 - Perhaps these evil angels were subsequently confined to a part of the underworld/Hades, specifically Tartarus, and God sees to it that no other demon crosses the boundary that He has set.
 - Conversely, the text says that the Nephilim were in the world afterwards too. (Does “afterwards” mean after the time talked about, but still before the Flood? Or, does it refer to after the Flood?)
 - Numbers 13:33 refers to the Nephilim as being giants in the land, seen in Canaan by the Israelite spies. NUM 13:32-33 And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, "The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them."

v. 3 “... his days will be a hundred and twenty years”

This is another difficult verse.

Does it mean that man’s lifespan is not to exceed 120 (after the Flood)?

Does it mean that it will be 120 years from the time referred to, until the time of the Flood?

Chapter 7: The Great Flood

- According to Bible chronology, it took place around 2345 BC.
- The dimensions of the ark were: 1.4 million cubic feet, equal to about 522 standard livestock railway cars. Since each railway car can hold about 240 sheep, that means a total of over 125,000 sheep could have been carried on the ark (including millions of species of insects, if they couldn't survive outside the ark). "Everything with life in it" includes wild beasts, cattle, creeping things, birds, and insects.
 - According to experts on biological taxonomy, there are less than 18,000 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians living in the world today.
 - Suppose that there were double the number, when accounting for extinct species; this makes 36,000.
 - Double it again for taking 2 of every unclean animal, and 7 of every clean animal (far fewer clean animals exist than unclean animals). The clean animals allowed for sacrifices afterwards, and for more rapid repopulation among domestic animals. This makes 72,000. Add 3,000 for an upper bound on clean animals, and we have about 75,000 animals.
 - There are very few animals that are large in size, most are considerably smaller than a sheep. Noah didn't need to take fully mature animals, he could have gone with younger (hence, smaller) animals.
 - Also, many species (e.g., dogs) can come from 1 pair of animals, as there would be considerable variation in genetics (via alleles) permitted, just like in the days of Adam and Eve. This variation would be present in the DNA. Note that this is microevolution, not macroevolution—the latter of which is Darwinian evolution, i.e., "molecules to man".
- The ark was a very stable vessel—it could be tilted through angles up to almost 90 degrees (i.e., near vertical), and it could realign itself.
- The ark protected its contents from the destruction outside. The "waters of judgment and death were also waters of cleansing and deliverance", says Henry Morris. (Shades of baptism.)
- Water rose for 150 days. In all, it was over a year before enough land had been exposed to permit the occupants to leave the Ark.
- Effects of the Flood:
 - different landscape afterwards
 - a new start
 - many fossils resulted, including animals having had food in their mouths while being buried rapidly
 - many strata (layers) of sediment and rock
 - Mount St. Helens showed how a canyon 1/40th the size of the Grand Canyon could be formed in *days*, rather than very long periods of time.
- The Ark came to rest on "the mountains of Ararat" (possibly near the intersection of Iraq, Turkey, and Russia).

- The Hebrew word for “ark” is the same word used to keep baby Moses hidden among the bulrushes in the Nile River.
- Most of the water for the Flood came from pre-Flood (antediluvian) seas, underground: “waters below the firmament” = “the great deep” ... “bursting of the fountains of the great deep”
- Events on the Jewish calendar (major feasts and festivals that are celebrated) are summarized as follows. I extracted this from Grant Jeffrey’s book “Armageddon: Appointment with Destiny” from the late 1980’s. Grant’s work is a little sloppy from time to time, but he was one of the first prophecy teachers that simplified and clarified many things about prophecy.

The Jewish Calendar

<u>Jewish Month</u>	<u>Our Calendar</u>
1. Nisan	Mar - Apr
2. Iyar	Apr - May
3. Sivan	May - Jun
4. Tammuz	Jun - Jul
5. Av	Jul - Aug
6. Elul	Aug - Sep
7. Tishri	Sep - Oct
8. Heshvan	Oct - Nov
9. Chisleu	Nov - Dec
10. Tebeth	Dec - Jan
11. Sebat	Jan - Feb
12. Adar	Feb - Mar
13. Ve-Adar (Adar II, in a Jewish leap year)	

The Jewish calendar consists of a cycle of 19 years, with 7 of those years being of the "leap year" type (extra month = Ve-Adar). This synchronizes the lunar cycle and the solar cycle.

Colossians 2:16-17 “Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.”

The Appointed Holidays (e.g., Feasts/Festivals)

Nisan 14	Passover Supper
Nisan 15	Feast of Unleavened Bread
Nisan 17	Feast of Firstfruits
Sivan 6	Day of Pentecost
Tishri 1	Feast of Trumpets
Tishri 10	Day of Atonement
Tishri 15	Feast of Tabernacles

The Appointed Fasts

Tammuz 17	Fast of Mourning
Av 9	Fast of Tisha Be-Av

Major Events Occurring on Anniversaries of Jewish Holy Days

Nisan 14: Passover Supper

- 1) God makes a covenant with Abraham regarding the Promised Land
- 2) The Passover Supper in Egypt
- 3) The Last Supper - the new Covenant with Christ

Nisan 15: Feast of Unleavened Bread (=Pesah or Passover)

- 1) The exodus from Egypt begins
- 2) The crucifixion of Christ

Nisan 17: Feast of Firstfruits

- 1) Noah's Ark comes to rest on Mount Ararat
- 2) Israel passes through the Red Sea during the Exodus
- 3) Israel eats the firstfruits of the Promised Land
- 4) The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Sivan 6: Day of Pentecost (= Feast of Harvest [barley], = Feast of Weeks, =Shavuot)

- 1) The giving of the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai
- 2) The giving of the Holy Spirit to the Church
- 3) An Old Jewish tradition says that King David was born on Pentecost, and also died on Pentecost
- 4) The book of Ruth is read in Jewish Synagogues, "retelling the story of the Gentile bride (Ruth), whose kinsman-redeemer claimed her at midnight - the very night of Pentecost."
- 5) "Some Jews hold to the practice of staying up all night on Pentecost. Their tradition says that on this night, for a brief instant, the skies will open up. They believe that during this moment, God will hear and answer any prayer. So they spend the night praying. The activities associated with remaining awake all night are called 'decorating the bride'."
- 6) Jewish tradition says that Enoch was raptured on Sivan 6.

Tishri 1: Feast of Trumpets (= Rosh Ha'shanah)

- 1) Possible day that the flood waters dried up, and Noah removed the covering from the ark
- 2) Lesson in Jewish synagogues on this day: Is. 60-61. The glory of Zion, the year of the Lord's favor. The Messiah comes as King.
- 3) Jewish tradition says that this is the day of Judgment
- 4) Ancient New Year's day for Israel

Tishri 10: Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)

(The Holiest day in the Jewish calendar. For 24 hours, the Israelites were to confess their sins. No work was to be done. On the Day of Atonement in the Year of Jubilee, debts were cancelled, slaves were set free, and any sold family lands were returned to their respective owners).

- 1) Aaron, Israel's first high priest makes atonement for Israel
- 2) Possible day when Israel will see the Messiah whom they have pierced (the start of the Great Jubilee)
- 3) Lesson in Jewish synagogues on this day: the story of Jonah

Tishri 15: Feast of Tabernacles (=Feast of Booths, =Feast of Ingathering (i.e., wheat harvest), =Succoth)

- 1) Possible birthday of Jesus Christ
- 2) Dedication of Solomon's Temple, circa 950 BC
- 3) Dedication of the second Temple, circa 515 BC
- 4) Possible start of the Millennium

Appointed Fasts

Tammuz 17: Fast of Mourning

- 1) Moses comes down from Mount Sinai, sees the golden calf, and breaks the tablets of the Law
- 2) The Babylonian army breaks through the walls of Jerusalem and causes the daily sacrifice to cease (circa 587 BC)
- 3) The Roman army forces the priests to stop the daily sacrifice in (circa 70 AD)

Av 9: Fast of Tisha Be-Av

- 1) 10 of 12 spies cause Israel to lose faith in the wilderness
- 2) Solomon's Temple is destroyed in 587 BC
- 3) The second Temple is destroyed in 70 AD

Future Events on Anniversaries of Jewish Holy Days

???

Chapter 8: The Great Flood (cont.)

- Post-flood (post-diluvian) conditions were greatly different than pre-flood (ante-diluvian) conditions:
 - Before: tropical climate: warm, but stable and predictable; probably no rain; higher atmospheric pressure; more oxygen content; protection from radiation from space
 - After: rain, clouds, strong winds, sometimes cold, sometimes warm, sometimes hot

Morris, p. 206: "... the uniform temperatures of the antediluvian world would have precluded strong winds. With the vapor canopy gone, however, sharp temperature differentials would have been established between equator and poles, and great air movements begun. These would soon have been complicated by the earth's rotation, so that the present complex system of atmospheric circulations would finally be initiated ... there must also be a drastic rearrangement of terrestrial topography, with continental land masses rising from the waters, and ocean basins deepening and widening to receive the waters draining off the lands."

- v. 4: the ark "rested"
 - The ark is a *type* of Christ.
 - The ark finished its mission; Christ finished His mission.
 - The ark is a bridge from the old ante-diluvian world to the new post-diluvian world; Christ is a bridge from death to life (or the old world to the new).
 - The ark was a vessel used to save people from destruction; Christ saves people from destruction.
 - Other types of Christ:
 - The *tabernacle* in the wilderness
 - God's plan of: a single entrance (Christ the way: John 14:6, Acts 4:12), having an altar for sacrifice (Rom. 8:22b), a laver for cleansing, the candlestick (menorah) for light (Christ the light of the world); the high priest (e.g., Aaron) interceding before God (in the Holy of Holies), and now Christ interceding for us (and we can approach God directly with our prayers, the curtain has been torn because of Christ's finished work on the cross)
 - The "serpent" raised up in the wilderness
 - The sign of Jonah: 3 days, 3 nights
 - Bread: Joseph's dream; Christ=bread of life, communion
 - The Lamb of God
 - etc.
- 371 days were spent in the ark (not 40 days and 40 nights, like some people think)
 - After 2.5 months, the tops of the mountains were seen.
 - After 40 more days, Noah released a raven.
 - After 7 more days, a dove was released.
 - After 7 more days, a dove was released again, but this time, it returned with an olive branch in its mouth.
- An Ice Age followed because of the radically different climate; the Ice Age may have lasted between several hundred years and 1000 years) in the northern parts of the world (compare today the many glaciers, most of which are retreating (e.g., the Columbia Icefield in the Canadian Rockies between Jasper and Banff).

Chapter 9: The New World

- Man is permitted to eat animals (i.e., meat) ... this *may* have been done before the Flood, too, although this is the first time we see it documented
- Before the Flood, there was evidently widespread violence and lawlessness, with every man handing out his own vengeance
 - In Gen. 9:5-6, we see that God says murderers shall be put to death, thus God established the institution of human government.
- v. 7: “be fruitful and multiply”
 - About 4350 years since the Flood, the human population has increased from 8 people to 6-7 billion. (There were only about 4 billion around 1970.)
 - Without war, plagues, and famine, etc., the population base would have been even bigger!
- v. 9: The rainbow as a sign of God’s covenant with Noah (i.e., not to send another worldwide flood).
 - Prior to the Flood, it appears that liquid water droplets didn’t exist in the air—just invisible water *vapor*—and therefore no rainbow was possible. Morris: “With the new hydrological [water] cycle following the Flood, the former vapor canopy is gone.”
 - The covenant is also with the animals leaving the ark: no more worldwide flood.
 - Morris: “The tragedy is, that though all men admire the beautiful rainbow, few any longer associate it with God’s promise; nor do many even believe that there ever was a Flood!”
 - God would also “look upon it” (rainbow) and “remember his covenant”
- Other covenants in Scripture are:
 - With Moses: covenant regarding the nation of Israel
 - With David: covenant regarding the nation of Israel
 - Through Jesus: the new covenant (New Testament): write the law on the names and hearts of believers
- Gen. 9:20-23 Noah’s drunkenness; Ham seeing Noah’s nakedness:
 - “This event took place probably many decades after the Flood, because Canaan, the youngest of Ham’s four sons, was at least sufficiently mature for the bent of his character to be well known to his grandfather Noah.”
 - It’s unclear as to what Ham did that offended Noah so much. Was it a homosexual act? Probably not, says Morris. Ham “gazed at” Noah, evidently with satisfaction. Perhaps Ham’s action “expressed a long-hidden resentment of his father’s authority and moral rectitude” ... perhaps Ham, “beholding the evidence of his father’s human weakness before his very eyes, he rejoiced, no doubt feeling a sense of release from all the inhibitions which had until now suppressed his own desires and ambitions. Thinking his brothers would share his satisfaction, he hastened to find them and tell them the savory news. Literally, the text means ‘he told with delight’ ”. His brothers did not share his delight.
 - Do we look for faults in others, and then rush to advertise those faults to others?
 - Is gossip as harmful as other sins (e.g., lying, stealing, ...)?
- The prophecy of Noah, and his curse on Canaan:
 - Why did the curse not fall on Ham and all his descendants?
 - Why just Canaan? (son of Ham)
 - Canaan’s descendants included the Phoenicians and the Hittites, who “constituted two of the greatest nations of antiquity for a long time”

Chapter 10: God and the Table of Nations

- Ch. 9:28-29: Noah lived to be 950 years of age. Only 2 other people recorded in the Bible have lived for more than this: Jared (962) and Methuselah (969).
- The Bible is remarkable among all recorded literature in that there is no comparable catalog of ancient nations available from any other source. *Many nations mentioned in Genesis have been confirmed by archeology.*
- The sons of Japheth are as follows. In summary, the descendants of Japheth spread all over Europe, with some heading eastward into Persia and India.

Son's Name	Possible Location (or People Group) Today
Gomer (and sons Ashkenaz and Togarmah, among others)	Gomer: north of the Black Sea, perhaps Crimea, with some descendents eventually moving westward to Germany and Wales Ashkenaz: Germany, parts of Denmark, parts of Armenia Togarmah: Armenia, possibly Turkey
Magog	literally "the place of Gog", Georgia near the Black Sea; possibly the Scythians (again, near the Black Sea); progenitors of the modern Russian peoples
Madai	Persia (Iran)
Javan (and sons Tarshish and Kittim among others)	Greece; Tarshish may refer to Spain or part of North Africa; Kittim likely refers to Cyprus
Tubal	progenitors of the modern Russian peoples; Tubal may refer to Tobolsk (modern Russian city)
Meshech	progenitors of the modern Russian peoples; Meshech may refer to Moscow or Muskovi (the former name of Russia)
Tiras	Thracians, or Etruscans of Italy

- The sons of Ham are as follows. In summary, the descendants of Ham spread abroad: the Hittites to Asia Minor, and possibly China—and the Canaanites "north and east into Asia and then ultimately (via the Bering Sea land bridge which existed during the Ice Age) into North and South America".

Son's Name	Possible Location (or People Group) Today
Cush (or Kish), and his sons Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah (and sons Sheba and Dedan), Sabtechah, and Nimrod	Cush is often translated to Ethiopia; apparently they migrated first to Arabia and then across the Red Sea into Ethiopia Seba (Sabeans): Sudan Havilah, Sabtah, and Sabtechah: Arabia Raamah: only Sheba and Dedan are mentioned as grandsons of Cush; therefore, Sheba and Dedan must have been important; Nimrod's name means "Let us rebel" (Cush may have been angry at the Noahic curse): Nimrod was a mighty hunter and he became the world's first dictator, in the land of Shinar (Babylonia, Babel) ... Nimrod went into Assyria and founded Ninevah on the upper Tigris River (Babylon was on the Euphrates River)
Mizraim (and sons, including Casluhim)	Mizraim is the ancestor of the Egyptians; Mizraim is associated with Egypt; Egypt is also called the "land of Ham" (Psalm 105:23, etc.); sons may have moved south and west into other parts of Africa; Casluhim probably produced the Philistines, which are generally placed on the island of Crete as their origin

Phut or Put	Libya, North Africa
Canaan	<p>the ancestor of the Canaanites (now part of Israel); sons were progenitors of the Phoenicians (Tyre, Sidon), Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites, etc;</p> <p>The evidence is tenuous, but two of the sons of Canaan (Heth and Sin) may have become ancestors of the Oriental peoples. The Mongoloid peoples (and therefore the American Indians) may have come from the line of Ham.</p> <p>The Canaanite boundaries at the time of writing (Genesis) appears to be from Sidon on the northern coast down to Gaza (Philistia) on the southern coast, and then east and south to the Dead Sea, including Sodom and Gomorrah.</p>

- The sons of Shem are as follows:

Son's Name	<i>Possible Location (or People Group) Today</i>
Elam	Persia
Asshur	Assyria (Nimrod invaded them and founded Ninevah)
Arphaxad	Assyria? Arphaxad was an ancestor of Abraham
Lud	Lydia in Asia Minor
Aram	Arameans, also known as Syrians; Aramaic was an important language. "Some of the Old Testament (portions of Daniel and Ezra) was apparently originally written in Aramaic, and it was a common spoken language among the Jews at the time of Christ."

(to be continued)

Chapter 10 (cont.): God and the Table of Nations

- The sons of Shem are as follows:

Son's Name	Possible Location (or People Group) Today
Elam	Persia
Asshur	founder of the Assyrians (Nimrod invaded them and founded Ninevah, later to become the capital of Assyria)
Arphaxad (grandson Eber, among others)	Assyria? Arphaxad was an ancestor of Abraham. Eber had sons Peleg ("In his days was the earth divided.") and Joktan. Apparently, Peleg was a contemporary of Nimrod (lived around the same time).
Lud	Lydia in Asia Minor
Aram (son Uz, among others)	Arameans were also known as Syrians. Aramaic was an important language. "Some of the Old Testament (portions of Daniel and Ezra) was apparently originally written in Aramaic, and it was a common spoken language among the Jews at the time of Christ." Uz was a region in Arabia, which later was Job's homeland (Job 1:1).

On Peleg and the division of the earth: It was not necessary to assume continental drift in order to account for the populations now found in remote parts of the Earth. People could have migrated via the land bridges at the Bering Strait and the Malaysian Strait "when the sea level was much lower than it now is, during the centuries following the Flood when much of the earth's water was frozen in the great continental ice sheets of the Glacial Epoch." Remember, early man also could build seagoing vessels. But, it is quite possible that the Earth broke up during the time of the Flood.

Chapter 11: The Tower of Babel

Henry Morris writes: “The eleventh chapter of Genesis tells of an event of almost equal importance to that of the great Flood.”

- Nimrod and his followers began to worship the *creation* rather than the Creator.
- “... there is abundant evidence that all forms of paganism have come originally from the ancient Babylonian religion ... the various gods and goddesses of Rome, Greece, India, Egypt”, etc.
- Nimrod became chief priest and an object of worship
- “Not only has the original Babylonian religious system served as the source of all the world’s non-Christian religions (Babylon, according to Revelation 17:5, was the ‘mother of harlots and abominations of the earth’), but it has also infiltrated and corrupted Christendom to an alarming degree.”

It appears that God wanted to establish the principle of human government through subdividing the future population into workable and controllable social units or nations.

Genesis 11:1-7 Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 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." But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. 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. Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

v. 1: “Now the whole world had one language and a common speech”: this was probably a Semitic language, perhaps Hebrew “because the proper names of men and places in the pre-Babel period all have meanings only in Hebrew and its cognate languages”.

v. 4: The tower was not necessarily designed to reach to heaven, but possibly be dedicated to heaven and its angelic host.

- Babel means “babbling” or “confusion”, although later inhabitants claimed that Babel means “gate of God”.
- It is unclear how long construction took place at the Tower of Babel. After some time, the Lord came down to intervene. (Note: “Let *us* go down and confuse their language...”)
- During the migration of peoples from Babel, it is quite likely that the stronger tribes took more favourable lands, and with access to great resources, it is likely they developed faster. “Although members of the tribe certainly knew many useful arts, such as agriculture, animal husbandry, ceramics, metallurgy, and so on, they could not use them right away. Veins of metal had to be discovered, mined, and smeltered; suitable clay muds had to be found for making bricks and pottery; animals had to be bred; and crops had to be planted. All of this might take several years. In the meantime, the tribe had to survive by hunting, fishing, and gathering fruits and nuts. Temporary homes had to be built of stone, if available, or timber, or even in caves.”

- “As soon as materials for ceramics and metals could be found, the ‘stone age’ at the site was succeeded by a ‘bronze age’ or ‘iron age’. The ‘village economy’ was quickly succeeded by ‘urbanization’ as the population increased and suitable building materials were developed.”
- Since earth’s population was still relatively young and since, before the Flood, there had been a minimum of environmental radiations to produce genetic mutations, there was as yet no genetic danger from inbreeding. After many centuries had elapsed, however the accumulation of mutations and the associated danger of congenital defects had become sufficiently serious to cause God to declare incestuous marriages illegal (Leviticus 18:6-14).”
- Language: Eventually, the Lord will give back to mankind a single language for all peoples: (Zephaniah 3:9), a pure language, even though there will still be distinct nations, even in the Millennium (Zechariah 14:16-17; Isaiah 2:4)

Zechariah 14:16-17 Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain.

Isaiah 2:4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.