

# Teaching Points from **GENESIS**

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## Creation

- Genesis 1-2
- **Awesomeness of God**
  - He was there in the BEGINNING!
  - He CREATED from nothing (bara in Hebrew – singular verb)
  - He is GOD (Elohim in Hebrew – plural noun)
  - He created the HEAVENS and EARTH
- **Word of God**
  - Fiat: Let it be; Fulfillment: And it was!  
(Genesis 1:3,6,9,11,14-15, 20, 24, 26)
  - Worlds were prepared by the word of God  
(Hebrews 11:3)
  - II Peter 3:5; Psalm 33:6,9; Psalm 148:5
  - John 1:1
- **Order of God in Creation**
  - Announcement: And God said
  - Command: Let it be; Let it be gathered
  - Report: And it was so
  - Evaluation: And God saw it was good
  - Temporal Framework: And there a was evening, and there was morning

- **God's use of Creative Days**
  - Day 1 – light
  - Day 2 – the sky (firmament) and waters
  - Day 3 – land and vegetation
  - Day 4 – luminaries
  - Day 5 – fish and the birds
  - Day 6 – beasts and man
- **God completes the process**
  - Heavens and earth completed (2:1)
  - God saw and it was good (1:4,10,12, 18, 21,25)
  - God saw and it was very good (1:31)
  - Seventh day (2:2-3)
    - God does NOT get tired
    - Rest indicates that He ceased from His creative activity
- **God creates man**
  - Let Us make man (1:28)
  - Created in the image and likeness of God (1:26)
  - Breath of life (Genesis 2:7)
  - Be fruitful and multiply (Genesis 1:22)
  - Male and female, He created them (Genesis 1:27)
  - Foundation of marriage is designed by God
- **God ordains marriage**
  - The law of leaving
  - The law of cleaving
  - The law of weaving
  - One Man! One Woman! For Life!

# Fall of Man

- Genesis 3
- **The Temptation**
  - Satan struck fast
  - Satan began with Eve
  - Satan waited until Eve was in full view of tree
  - Satan deceived Eve, making her think he had her best interest in mind
- **Justifying the Temptation**
  - Eve minimized the garden privileges
  - Eve exaggerated the prohibition
  - Eve watered down the warning
  - Satan's Deceitful Attack
  - Satan denied the word of God
    - You will NOT die!
  - Satan suggested that God's motives were not pure
    - Your eyes will be open and you will be like gods
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- **The Temptations of Sin**
  - Tree appealed to Eve in three ways
    - Physically – good for food
    - Aesthetic – pleasing to the eye
    - Intellectual – for making one wise
  - The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life
    - 1 John 2:15-17

- **The Results of Sin**
  - They saw themselves as frail mortals, not gods
  - They did not have God-like wisdom
  - They knew good and evil by experience
  - They lost fellowship with God
  - They experienced an embarrassing confrontation with God
- **Salvation Promised**
  - First Messianic prophecy
  - Serpent would battle
    - With the woman
    - With the seed of woman
    - With a single representative of the seed of woman

## Cain and Abel

- Genesis 4
  - **Differences in Offerings**
    - Cain brought SOME of the fruits of the ground
      - Casual attitude toward God revealed a lack of faith and love in his heart toward God
    - Abel brought FIRSTLINGS of the flock
      - Focus on the heart of the worshipper, not what was brought
  - **Anger against God**
    - Cain became angry with God because his offering was rejected
    - Cain resented Abel, instead of being angry with himself
    - Anger opened the door and sin devoured him
      - I John 3:11-12

# Flood

- Genesis 6-9
- **God's Plan**
  - Only God could provide a plan
  - God revealed the end of all flesh
  - God revealed reason for judgement
- **God Gives Details**
  - Noah was to build the ark
    - Built of gopher wood
    - Build rooms in the ark
    - Pitched within and without to waterproof it
    - Built with specifications
- **God's Promise**
  - God would destroy every living thing
  - Noah would survive the flood
  - Noah would make a new covenant with God
  - All kinds of animals would survive
    - Noah would load them on the ark
    - Noah would gather food
- **God's Protection**
  - God invited Noah and his household to enter
  - God had seen Noah righteous before Him
  - Clean animals – “seven seven”
  - Protected from the flood waters
    - Fountains of the great deep
    - Windows of heaven

- **God's Provisions**
  - A New Earth
  - A New Worship
  - A New Blessing
  - A New Revelation
  - A New Covenant
- **New Testament Plan**
  - God's plan to save man through Christ
  - God gave details how this would be done
  - God promises to save IF one obeys
  - God protects us from sin in salvation
  - God provides forgiveness of sins
    - I Peter 3:21

## **Tower of Babel**

- Genesis 11
- **Rebellion of the Nations**
  - Man brings rebellion by building a tower
    - Tower to protect from another flood?
    - Tower to protect from enemies?
    - Either way – lack of faith
  - God brings judgment

## **Call of Abraham**

- Genesis 11-12
- **God of Glory Appears**
  - Leave your country
  - Leave your relatives
  - Go to the land I will show you
    - Go to an uncertain destination
    - Hebrews 11:8

- **God's Promises to Abram**
  - God will make Abram a great nation
  - God promised Abram a good standing before Him
  - God would bless Abram
    - Through the Messiah (Galatians 3:8, 16)
- **Abram Discovers a . . .**
  - Revelation
    - And the Lord appeared to Abram
  - Promise
    - To your descendants I will give this land
  - Relationship
    - So he built an altar there to the Lord
- **Test of Abram**
  - Canaanites lived in the land
  - Famine broke out in Canaan
  - With No divine directive, Abram left Canaan to Egypt
- **Consequences of Bad Decision**
  - Abram committed the sin of deception
  - Abram lost his wife
  - Abram brought pain and suffering on Pharaoh's house
  - Abram was rebuked by a pagan king
- **Faith of Abram**
  - He believed God when he did not know where
    - Hebrews 11:8
  - He believed God when he did not know how
    - Hebrews 11:11
  - He believed God when he did not know why
    - Hebrews 11:17-19

- **Destruction of Sodom**
- Genesis 18-19
- **Hospitality to Strangers**
  - Address guests with respect
  - Do not think too highly of self
  - Graciously offer guests provisions
    - Hebrews 13:2
  - Serve your guests with gladness
- **Nothing too difficult for God**
  - Sarah would have a son
  - This son would be born in one year
  - Sarah was skeptical because of age
  - Is anything too difficult for the Lord?
    - Jeremiah 32:27
- **Announcement of Judgement**
  - God had chosen Abraham
  - A righteous life a condition for the fulfillment of the covenant promises
  - The Lord will go down to see the wickedness of the place
    - Prior to pouring out His wrath, God sent His representatives to investigate the situation
- **Power of Prayer**
  - Prayer draws one near to the Lord
  - Prayer believes God would not punish the righteous with the wicked
  - Prayer is persistent
  - Prayer is with reverent humility
  - Prayer was successful

- **Angels Findings in Sodom**
  - Found Lot sitting in the gate of Sodom
  - Found Lot to be a very humble and gracious host
  - Found the perverse wickedness of Sodom
  - Found a righteous man with a warped sense of value
- **Grace & Judgement in Sodom**
  - Grace
    - They warned Lot of impending judgment
    - They led Lot's family out of Sodom
    - They gave Lot directions regarding a place of safety
  - Judgement
    - The Lord rained fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah
- **What Lot lost in Sodom**
  - He lost his wealth
  - He lost his wife
    - She looked back to the city
    - She became a pillar of salt
    - Jesus said to remember Lot's wife (Luke 17:32)
  - Lot lost his children
- **New Testament Teaching**
  - **Peter used Sodom as an example**
  - **(II Peter 2:4-9)**
    - **Warning**
      - **Ashes were an eternal warning to the ungodly**
    - **Encouragement**
      - **Rescue of Lot shows how the Lord can deliver from temptation**

- **Sacrifice of Isaac**

- Genesis 22

- **Abraham's Faith in Trial**

- Offer Isaac as a burnt offering
  - We will return to you
  - Hebrews 11:19
- Isaac asks where is the sacrificial lamb
  - God will provide for Himself the lamb

- **Faith Seen in Obedience**

- Abraham built an altar
- Abraham arranged the wood
- Abraham bound Isaac and laid him on the wood
- Abraham raised his knife to slay his son
  - In the mind of Abraham, Isaac was as good as dead

- **Victory in Faithfulness**

- God did not desire the death of Isaac, but the heart of his father
- Abraham offered a ram as a burnt offering
- Abraham named the location the "Lord will provide"
- When God's people reach the summit of their faith, the Lord will always provide

- **New Testament Teaching**

- Abraham: Example for Christian faith
  - Romans 4:1-25
  - Hebrews 11:8-19
  - James 2:21-24

- **Esau Loses Birthright**

- Genesis 25

- **Parental Favoritism**

- Esau became a skilled hunter and outdoorsman
  - Isaac especially loved Esau
  - Esau was immoral and godless (Hebrews 12:16)
- Jacob was quiet and stayed around the tents with the women
  - Rebekah especially loved Jacob
  - Jacob was more spiritual than Esau

- **The Birthright**

- The Birthright included
  - Headship of the family
  - Family priesthood
  - A double portion of wealth
  - Designation as heir of the covenant

- **Esau Gives up Birthright**

- Esau came in from the field very hungry
- Jacob demanded Esau sell his birthright to eat
- Esau swore an oath and sold his birthright for some stew
- Because Esau craved the reddish color stew, Esau received the nickname Edom

# Deception of Jacob

- Genesis 27
- **A Father's Wish**
  - Isaac was sick and thought he was going to die
  - Isaac called Esau to hunt and prepare a meal
  - Isaac wanted to pronounce the patriarchal blessing upon Esau
    - The blessing was a solemn and holy act, performed "in the presence of the Lord"
- **A Deceiving Mother**
  - Rebekah made sure Jacob got the blessing
  - Jacob would prepare a meal of goat meat
  - Jacob brought the goats to Rebekah
  - Rebekah prepared the meat
  - Rebekah dressed Jacob in Esau's clothing
  - Rebekah covered Jacob with the goat skins
- **A Deceiving Son**
  - Jacob told three lies to his father Isaac
    - I am Esau
    - I have done as you told me
    - Eat some of my venison
  - When asked if he was Esau, Jacob lied again!
- **The Blessing**
  - Isaac prayed for successful crops
  - The blessing takes on political overtones
    - Nations and peoples would bow to Jacob
    - He would be lord over his brothers
    - Those who cursed him would be cursed, and those who blessed him would be blessed

- **An Upset Brother**
  - Esau prepared the venison and took it to Isaac
  - Isaac trembled
  - Esau burst out in a loud cry
    - In Hebrews 12:17, Esau sought the blessing with tears
  - He continued to ask his father for at least one blessing
- **A Father's Prediction**
  - Esau and his descendants would
    - Dwell in the barren wastes away from the dew of heaven
    - Live by the sword
    - Serve Jacob
  - There would be times when the descendants of Esau would throw off the yoke of Jacob

## Coat of Many Colors

- Genesis 37
- **A Favored Son**
  - Jacob made a special coat for Joseph
  - Joseph related two dreams to his brothers
    - The brothers (sheaves of grain) bowed down before Joseph's sheaf of grain
    - The sun, moon and eleven stars bowed down to Joseph
- **Jealous Brothers**
  - Joseph's brothers plotted to kill him
  - Reuben suggested they throw Joseph into a cistern and leave him
    - Reuben would release Joseph at a later time
  - The brothers stripped Joseph of his special coat
  - The brothers threw Joseph into an empty cistern
  - A caravan of Midianite merchants purchased Joseph

- **Deceitful Brothers**
  - They dipped coat in goat's blood
  - Jacob concluded he had been killed by a wild beast
  - Jacob mourned and refused to be comforted
  - The Midianites sold Joseph to one of Pharaoh's officials, a man named Potiphar
  - God had spared the life of Joseph placed him in a strategic position in Egypt

## **Joseph & Potiphar's Wife**

- Genesis 39
- **Temptation by Potiphar's Wife**
  - Potiphar's wife urged him to become sexually involved with her
  - Joseph rejected her advances
    - He could not betray the trust of his master
    - He could not sin against God
  - Potiphar's wife embraced Joseph one day and wanted to lie with him
  - Temptation of Potiphar's Wife
  - Joseph fled from her presence as Potiphar's wife grabbed his coat
  - Potiphar's wife accused Joseph of attempted rape
  - Potiphar believed his wife
  - Potiphar ordered Joseph thrown into the royal prison