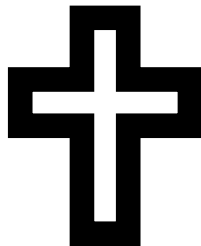


**Twelve Lessons**  
*on*  
***Old Testament Survey***

*Compiled and Written*  
*by*  
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## **GENESIS – LESSON 1**

**Introduction:** Our purpose in this study is to give the student the opportunity to study each book in the Old Testament and the strategic chapters within these books, to give a picture of how they all fit into the revelation of God and His purposes through His Word. The O. T. is a volume of progression. The truths of the O. T. are revealed gradually, and many cannot be understood without the parallel study of the New Testament.

### **Lesson Goals:**

1. To understand the different divisions and groupings of the Old Testament books.
2. To see the importance and grouping of the first five books of the Old Testament commonly called the Pentateuch.
3. To get a general overview of the content and construction of Genesis.

### **Definitions of Important Terms and/or Phrases:**

1. Dispensational – A period of time under which mankind is answerable to God for how it has obeyed the revelation of God which it has received. The KJV uses the term four times (1 Cor. 9:17; Eph. 1:10; 3:2; Col. 1:25) (Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary). A dispensation is an era of time during which man is tested in respect to obedience to some definite revelation of God's will. Seven such dispensations are recognized by many premillennialists (The New Unger's Bible Dictionary)
2. Pentateuch – a Greek term meaning “five-volumed” which refers to the first five books of the Old Testament. The Jews traditionally refer to this collection as “the Book of the Law,” or simply “the Law.” Another word for this collection, *Torah*, apparently means “instruction, teaching, or doctrine.” It describes such basic sections of the Pentateuch as Exodus, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy (Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary).
3. Pantheism – [Gr. all, and God, whence theism.] The doctrine that the universe is God, or the system of theology in which it is maintained that the universe is the supreme God (Webster's 1828 Dictionary).
4. Polytheism – [Gr. many and God.] The doctrine of a plurality of gods or invisible beings superior to man, and having an agency in the government of the world (Webster's 1828 Dictionary).
5. Fatalism – The doctrine that all things are subject to fate, or that they take place by inevitable necessity.

### **Things to Consider:**

#### **The Characteristics Of The Old Testament**

##### **A. The Structure**

- |                 |                  |                      |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. 39 Books     | 3. 23,214 Verses | 5. 2,728,100 letters |
| 2. 929 Chapters | 4. 592,493 Words |                      |

##### **B. The Purpose**

1. Its purpose is to reveal the person and work of the coming Redeemer – Hebrews 1:1-3; 9:6-14
2. Its message is Redemption and is presented in type, promise, prophecy, & Psalm – Luke 24:25-27, 44-47

##### **C. The Division**

1. The Books of Foundation: Genesis – Deuteronomy
2. The Books of Demonstration: Joshua – Esther
3. The Books of Aspiration: Job – Song of Solomon
4. The Books of Expectation: Isaiah – Malachi

##### **D. The Method Of Study**

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Spiritually   | 7. Dispensationally  |
| 2. Historically  | 8. Analytically      |
| 3. Typically     | 9. Biographically    |
| 4. Topically     | 10. Critically       |
| 5. Prophetically | 11. Devotionally     |
| 6. Practically   | 12. Interpretatively |

##### **E. The Complete Picture**

1. The First 17 Books
  - a. 5 Books – Genesis through Deuteronomy – They are Historical
  - b. 12 Books – Joshua through Esther – They are Historical
2. The 5 Middle Books
  - a. 5 Books – Job – Song of Solomon
  - b. These books are Personal & Experiential

3. The Last 17 Books
  - a. 5 Books – Isaiah through Daniel – Major Prophets
  - b. 12 Books – Hosea through Malachi – Minor Prophets

**Genesis: The First Book Of The Pentateuch**

**I. THE OUTLINE OF THE PENTATEUCH**

**A. Man's Perspective**

1. Genesis = Ruin through the sin of Adam and Eve
2. Exodus = Redemption by “blood” and “power”
3. Leviticus = Communion because of the atoning sacrifice
4. Numbers = Guidance through obedience to God's will
5. Deuteronomy = Destination by God's faithfulness

**B. God's Perspective**

1. Genesis = God's Sovereignty in creation
2. Exodus = God's Power in liberation
3. Leviticus = God's Holiness in separation and consecration
4. Numbers = God's Severity and Righteousness through judgment
5. Deuteronomy = God's Faithfulness in correction and completion

**II. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF GENESIS**

**A. One of the five books written by Moses** and is the book of “beginnings” or “generations.”

**B. Gen. 1:1** – Picture of a world that was created perfect by a righteous God. It starts with life.

**C. Gen. 50:26** – The results of sin upon the human race. It ends in death.

**D. The key chapters** are 1, the Creation, and 12, the Call of Abraham.

**E. Chapter 1, verse 1** denies all false doctrines concerning God.

1. “*In the beginning God*” – denies Atheism with its doctrine of “No God.”
2. “*In the beginning God*” – denies Polytheism with its doctrine of “Many Gods.”
3. “*In the beginning God created*” – denies Fatalism with its doctrine of “Chance.”
4. “*In the beginning God created*” – denies Evolutionism with its doctrine of “Progression.”
5. “*God created the heavens and earth*” – denies Pantheism which makes God and the universe one.
6. “*God created the heavens and earth*” – denies materialism which says that all matter is eternal.

**III. THE CONTENT OF GENESIS**

**A. The History of Humanity** – Chapters 1-11

1. The Creation – The handiwork of a divine creator and sovereign
2. The Fall – The rebellion of man against God's moral authority
3. The Flood – The judgment of God upon the wickedness of man
4. The Confusion of Babel – The beginning of the nations and racial difference.

**B. The History of the Hebrew** – Chapters 12-50

1. The Call of Abraham – The beginning of God's relationship to Israel
2. The Miracle of Isaac – The power of God through the birth of Isaac
3. The Blessing of Jacob – The breaking and blessing of Jacob
4. The Guidance of Joseph – The trials and providence of God in Joseph

**IV. THE CHARACTERS OF GENESIS**

**A. Adam, Eve, and their family** – Family of Depravity

**B. Noah and his family** – Family of Salvation

**C. Abraham and his family** – Family of Promise

1. Abraham – The father who gave a son
2. Isaac – The son who took a bride
3. Jacob – The grandson who fought a war of the flesh and the Spirit
4. Joseph – The great-grandson providentially lead by the hand of God

**D. The Great Men Of Genesis** – The progression of spirituality

1. Adam – A life of spiritual depravity
2. Abel – A life of spiritual desire
3. Enoch – A life of spiritual choice
4. Noah – A life of spiritual renewal
5. Abraham – A life of faith

6. Isaac – A life of sonship
7. Jacob – A life of service
8. Joseph – A life of suffering and glory

**E. Types of Christ in Genesis**

1. Adam – (8 parallels)
2. Adam & Eve – church
3. Coats of skin
4. The Tree of Life
5. Abel – offered a more excellent sacrifice
6. Abel's Lamb
7. Noah – way of salvation
8. Noah's Ark
9. The Rainbow
10. Melchizedek
11. Abraham
12. Isaac – (11 parallels)
13. Ram Caught in Thicket
14. Jacob's Ladder
15. The Drink Offering
16. Joseph – (25 parallels)