Genesis – the Book of Beginnings

- The great salvation of God
  - The revelation of God in Christ (John 1:18; 5:39)
  - The revelation of Christ’s work of salvation (John 14:6; 1 John 4:14)
- The work of salvation in man – “the just shall live by faith” (Hab 2:4)
- Style – narrative – stories from history
## Genesis at a Glance

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<th>FOCUS</th>
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<th>LOCATION</th>
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| TIME | c. 2000 years | c. 4004 – c. 2166 B.C. | 281 years | c. 2166 – 1885 B.C. | 81 years (1885 – 1804 B.C.) |

Genesis 1-11 – Setting the Stage

- Creation
  - God Almighty - Sovereign LORD
  - Man – image of God; servant of God
  - Good creation

- The Fall
  - “We fail because we distrust God, and distrusting we disobey Him.”
    Griffith Thomas, D.D.
  - The death of man and creation – the curse of God
  - Great wickedness; every intent of the heart only evil continually
Genesis 1-11 – Setting the Stage

▪ The Flood
  • The wrath of God against sin
  • Total destruction with preservation of 8 humans and 2 or 7 of all animals
  • Inability of the flood to eradicate sin and the curse.

▪ The Tower of Babel
  • Rebellion against God’s command to populate the earth (1:28 and 9:1)
  • Division by language (10:5, 20, 31; 11:9)
  • Judgment – makes salvation harder in a divided humanity
Genesis 1-11 – Setting the Stage

- The Gospel introduced
  - *Protevangelium* (3:15)
  - “The LORD had regard for Abel and his offering.” (4:4)
  - Enoch (5:22-24)
  - Noah found grace (6:8)
  - Lamech’s hope (5:29)
  - The Covenant with Noah, animals and the earth (9:1-17)
Genesis 12-50 – Beginning of Salvation

- The revelation of the plan begins in earnest
- Abraham
  - The Abrahamic Covenant/Promise (12:1-3, 7; Hebrews 8)
    - Great nation; blessing; blessing to all nations; Seed of Abraham
  - Justification by faith (15:6; Gal 3:6-7; Rom 4:1-4)
- Isaac
  - Isaac and Ishmael – no place for human works (21:9-14; Gal. 4:25-31)
  - Jacob and Esau – salvation by sovereign election (25:21-26; Rom 9:6-13)
- Jacob
  - Esau – the godless immoral man (25:27-34; Heb 12:14-17)
  - The way of blessing through submission (32:24-32; Hos 12:3-4; Isa 30:15; Matt 11:28-29)
Jacob in Canaan (Genesis 33-36)

- Genesis 33 – Jacob meets Esau and settles in Canaan
- Genesis 34 – Jacob in Canaan
- Genesis 35 – God meets Jacob at Bethel a second time
- Genesis 36 – Esau moves to the hill country of Seir
Jacob Meets Esau and Settles in Canaan (33)

- Esau coming with 400 men (27:41)
- The word of the LORD
  - Promise at Bethel (28:13-15)
  - Command of the LORD to return (31:3)
  - The lesson of Mahanaim – 2 camps (visible and invisible) (32:1-2)
  - The lesson at Peniel – blessing through weakness (32:24-29)
- The vow and prayer of Jacob
  - Vow (28:20-21) – God reminded him (31:13)
  - Jacob prayed (32:9-12) based upon the Promise of God
- The preparations
  - Jacob made preparation to appease Esau (32:13-20)
Jacob Meets Esau and Settles in Canaan (33)

- A gracious and loving reunion
- An invitation declined – and not entirely honestly
- Settled in the land
  - Succoth – Built a house and booths for livestock
  - Shechem – later moved “before the city” and bought land (Josh 24:32)
  - Erected an altar – El-Elohe-Israel
- The weakness of Jacob’s faith
  - Religious activity focused upon Jacob
  - Still walking by sight, not faith
  - Temporal perspective – gate of heaven v. homeland (28:17)
Jacob in Canaan (34)

- Dinah went out to visit the daughters of the land
  - Patriarchal family duty (18:17-19)
- The “normal” behavior of the Hamor’s family
- Jacob’s strange non-response
- Brothers plot revenge
- Taking the name of the LORD in vain
- Two self-centered responses
  - Trouble for Jacob
  - Self-righteous brothers
- The apparent silence of the LORD
God Meets Jacob at Bethel a Second Time (35)

- The accursed land will become the House of God
- God’s response to Genesis 34
  - Go to Bethel and live there
  - Build an altar to the God of Bethel
- Jacob leads his family
- Death of Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse
- The blessing of the second Bethel – the Promise to Abraham
- Jacob worships God
- Major events following the blessing at Bethel
  - Death of Rachel at birth of Benjamin
  - Reuben’s sin with Bilhah, his father’s concubine
  - Listing of the sons of Israel
  - Death of Isaac
Esau Moves to the Hill Country of Seir (36)

**36:1-8 – Wives of Esau**
- Adah, daughter of Elon the Hitite (36:2, 10)
  - Basemath, the daughter of Elon the Hittite (26:34)
- Ohlibamah, daughter of Anah; granddaughter of Zibeon the Hivite (36:2, 14)
  - AKA Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite (26:34)
- Basemath, Ishmael’s daughter (sister of Nebaioth) (36:3, 10)
  - AKA Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael (sister of Nebaioth) (28:8-9)
- Movement from Canaan to the hill country of Seir.
  - Land insufficient for him with Jacob
  - Esau satisfied with “plenty” and wanted nothing from Jacob (33:9)
36:9-19 – Sons and grandsons of Esau

- **Adah, wife**
  - Son: Eliphaz
  - Grandsons: Teman, Omar, Zepho, Gatam, Kenaz, Amalek (by Timna)

- **Basemath, wife**
  - Son: Ruel
  - Grandsons: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, Mizzah

- **Oholibamah, wife**
  - Sons: Jeush, Jalam, Korah
  - Grandsons not mentioned

- **5 sons and 10 grandsons; all are chiefs, except Eliphaz and Ruel (Chief = ruler of 1000)**
Esau Moves to the Hill Country of Seir (36)

- 36:20-30 – Sons of Seir, the Horite
  - The hill country of Seir
  - Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer, Dishan – all all chiefs

- 36:31-39 – Kings in Edom

- 36:40-43 – Chiefs descended from Esau
  - Timna, Alvah, Jetheth, Oholibamah, Elah, Pinon, Kenaz, Teman, Mibzar, Magdiel, Iram
Esau Moves to the Hill Country of Seir (36)

- Promised Land insufficient – no expectation of blessing
- Merging of families of Esau and Seir – no holiness
  - Horites in the hill country of Seir – Genesis 14:6
- Prosperity of Esau and Seir v. sons of Israel
- God’s wrath against Edom/Seir
  - Edom – Jeremiah 49:7-22
  - Edom – Obadiah
  - Edom – Ezekiel 25:12–14
  - Mount Seir – Ezekiel 35
  - Edom – Ezekiel 36:5
Jacob in Canaan (Genesis 33-36)

- The family of Abraham – a very bad choice
- Salvation is God’s work
- The success of the work of salvation is found in God’s grace
- The righteousness of the believer is God’s righteousness
- The promise fulfillment awaits the return of Christ