
BOOK OVERVIEW

Genesis

Author: Moses

Date: about 1440 B.C.

Recipients: the nation of Israel

Key word: generations (19 times)

Summary: an account of the beginnings of things

Key verses: Genesis 1:1; 12:1-3

Notes:

The Greek word “Genesis” means “origin” or “beginning.” The Hebrew name for the book means “in the beginning.”

Genesis is the first of five books that are referred to as the Pentateuch, a Greek word which means “five volumes.” These books were often referred to by Jews as “the Law.”

This is a book of beginnings. The beginning of... 1) the universe, 2) man, 3) sin and death, 4) God’s plan to redeem mankind, 5) the nation of Israel.

The book describes three events which dramatically effect the world we live in today: 1) the universal flood, 2) the multiplication of languages and the dispersion of people at the tower of Babel, and 3) the hostility between Isaac and Ishmael—the origin of the conflict between Arabs and Jews.

God’s promise of a Savior originates in Genesis 3:15.

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