

## Lessons from Genesis

April 29, 2006

1. God had help in creating the heavens, the earth and man
2. God = elohim = plural
3. Jesus was the lead architect and the LORD of the Old Testament
4. The Genesis creation was actually a “re-creation”
5. Man was created to have dominion over everything on the earth
6. The Seventh Day Sabbath was created at the time of creation
7. The Garden of Eden was in modern day Iraq
8. The Tree of Life forms parentheses in the Bible – there in the beginning and there in the Kingdom of God
9. Lord = YHWH – Yahweh – Jehovah – the Tetragrammaton
10. Lord God specifies the singular person of many
11. Noah and his family found grace in the eyes of the Lord
12. Seven of every clean animal was taken onto the ark along with 2 of every unclean animal, so Noah knew God’s law of clean and unclean animals
13. Noah made sacrifices, so rituals were known before The Law was written down
14. The Tower of Babel was being built at the future site of Babylon
15. Abram left his home area without questioning God’s command
16. Abram gave tithes to Melchizedek – so tithing was known before the Law was written down
17. Ishmael was born of an Egyptian maid to Sarah, married an Egyptian and was the “father” of the Arabs,
18. Ishmael was promised a multitude of descendents
19. Abraham was promised to be the father of many nations and the father of kings, though no kings were known until Saul
20. The institution of circumcision was a sign of the covenant with Abraham
21. Jesus appeared to Abraham with two angels
22. Isaac was born to Abraham (100) and Sarah
23. Lot’s daughters became pregnant by him, from whom came the Moabites and Ammonites
24. Abraham’s call to sacrifice Isaac, his only son, was a foreshadow of the Passover and the crucifixion of Christ
25. Jacob bought Esau’s birthright and cheated him out of their father’s final blessing
26. The commandments, the statutes and the laws were already in place and known to Abraham and his sons
27. Jacob wrestled with YHWH
28. Jacob had 12 sons –
  - a. Leah –
    - i. Reuben
    - ii. Simeon
    - iii. Levi
    - iv. Judah
    - v. Issachar
    - vi. Zebulun
  - b. Bilbah
    - i. Dan
    - ii. Naphtali

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- c. Zilpah
    - i. Gad
    - ii. Asher
  - d. Rachel
    - i. Joseph
    - ii. Benjamin
29. Jacob's sons followed in his deceptive ways
30. One of the main themes running throughout Genesis is that, no matter how even good men plot and scheme, God's will is always accomplished in His way
- a. Abram and Sarai
  - b. Isaac and Ishmael
  - c. Esau and Jacob
  - d. Joseph and his brothers
31. Only 70 Israelites entered Egypt, while 600,000 came out with Moses
- a. God had promised Jacob his descendants would multiply in Egypt
32. Joseph was the impetus behind the establishment of a centralized government in Egypt
33. The blessing of Jacob (Israel)
- a. Reuben lost his birthright blessing
  - b. Joseph received the birthright blessing
    - i. Manasseh received the secondary blessing
      - 1. To be the stronger
      - 2. The United States of America?
    - ii. Ephraim received the primary blessing
      - 1. To be a melting pot of nations
      - 2. England?
  - c. Judah received the royal blessing
    - i. The preeminent tribe
    - ii. The Messianic scepter
  - d. Simeon and Levi were cut out of the blessings
    - i. Simeon received nothing
    - ii. Levi received no land and no portion of the inheritance
  - e. Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Asher, Benjamin and Naphtali received minor blessings

Why is the book of Genesis included in the Torah?

- 1. To show that the Law of God pre-existed the Mosaic times
- 2. To show that God's will can be accomplished without human intervention – and often, in spite of human intervention
- 3. To establish the lineage leading to the Messiah