THE FIRST 11 CHAPTERS OF GENESIS
Text: Genesis 1:1

INTRO: The word Genesis means "beginnings." The book tells us of the beginning of the material universe, the beginning of life on the earth, the beginning of the existence of man-kind, the beginnings of the home & family, the beginning of sin, the beginning of death, pain & misery, the beginning of various human languages, & many other things. For the person who would like to know what can be known about the beginnings of these & other things, I could cite no better source book to supply the answers than the first book of Moses, commonly known as the book of Genesis.

Evolutionists, atheists, infidels & modernists have frequently denied the historical accuracy of the first 11 chapters of the book. It is this section of Genesis that we will especially consider in this lesson.

I. THE WRITER WROTE AS IF HE WAS WRITING HISTORY.
   A. Matter of fact nature of the writing.
   B. There is nothing within the text to suggest that the language is anything but a literal account of the beginnings of the matters under consideration. In Deut 32:8, he calls all humanity "the sons of Adam."

II. OTHER O.T. WRITERS ACCEPTED GENESIS AS HISTORY.
   A. The Chronicle writer gives an account of genealogy. 1 Ch 1:1-25 that corresponds to the accounts in Gen 5 & 10.
   B. Job referred to Adam as a historical character, Job 31:33
   C. Noah is mentioned in a historical connection by Isaiah & Ezekiel. Isa 54:9; Ezek. 14:14, 20

III. THE N.T. SPEAKERS & WRITERS ACCEPTED GENESIS AS HISTORICALLY CORRECT.
   B. Jude acknowledges that Enoch was the 7th generation from Adam, Jude 14. Corresponds with Gen. 5.
C. Paul mentions the fact that Adam was first formed, then Eve, 1 Tim. 2:13; 1 Cor. 11:9.

D. When Jesus was asked about divorce, He cited God's original plan in the beginning, MT 19:4-5, 8.

E. Paul refers to Eve's sin, 2 Cor 11:3.

F. Paul referred to Adam's sin & the death that resulted from it in Rom. 5:14; 1 Cor. 15:22, 45. Also Eve's sin preceding Adam's, 1 Tim. 2:13.


H. Jesus cites as historical the case of Noah & the flood, MT 24:37; LK 17:26, as does the Hebrew writer, 11:7, and Simon Peter, 1 Pet 3:20; 2 Pet 2:5.

IV. THE VALUE OF THE BOOK TO US.
   A. Explains the beginning of the universe, 1:1-4, 11, 20
   B. Explains man's spiritual nature. Wherever we find mankind, scattered all over the earth, we find man a creature that worships some kind of supreme being. We find with a longing that material things does not satisfy. Genesis tells us why.

C. Explains the existence of sin & the anguish & death that result from it.
   1. Only other alternatives: no law or no choice. Rom. 5:13. Without law, there could be no orderly universe; without choice a man would not be a man.

      Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding, which must be harnessed with bit & bridle, else they will not come near you. (Psa 32:9).

   2. But the Genesis account records that God gave to
man both a law & a choice, Gen. 2:15-17.

D. The book of Genesis points man in the right direction for a fulfilling life.

1. Plants, animals are to be used for food, clothing, other ways to satisfy the needs of man. Gen. 1:28; 2:16-17; 9:3

2. Sexual desires are to be fulfilled in a lawful manner. Gen. 1:18-25

3. In Genesis the revelation begins to unfold as to how man can satisfy his spiritual needs. The O.T. sacrifices from that of Abel, Gen 4:4, to the end of the O.T. age, are fulfilled in Christ & in Him the spiritual longings of man are satisfied.

4. A study of the book of Genesis will prepare the student for the further unfolding of the plan of God throughout the remainder of the Scriptures.

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