

Genesis 1-11 Introduction

Outline based on general themes

- 1) Creation—1-2
- 2) Fall—3-5
- 3) Flood—6-10
- 4) Displacement—11

Outline based on the *toledoth* markers (“the records/ this is what became of”)

- 1) Creation—2:4-4:26
- 2) Adam—5:1-6:8
- 3) Noah—6:9-9:29
- 4) Shem, Ham, and Japheth—10:1-11:9
- 5) Shem—11:10-26
- 6) Terah—11:27-25:11

Outline based on the flow of the Pentateuch (see Sailhamer’s outline)

- 1) The Land and the Blessing—1:1-2:24
- 2) The Land and the Exile—2:25-4:26
- 3) The Story of Noah—5:1-10:32
- 4) The City of Babylon—11:1-9
- 5) The Line of Shem—11:10-26

The Author(s)

- 1) Divine
 - a) Generally, God (2nd Timothy 3:16-17)
 - b) Strictly, the Holy Spirit (2nd Peter 1:21)
- 2) Human writer/editor/compiler
 - a) Strictly, it is anonymous
 - b) Understood to be Moses
 - i) OT: Exodus 17:14; Numbers 33:2; Joshua 8:31; 1st Kings 2:3; 2nd Kings 14:6; Ezra 6:18; Nehemiah 13:1; Daniel 9:11, 13; Malachi 4:4
 - ii) NT: Matthew 8:4; Mark 12:26; Luke 16:29; 24:27, 44; John 5:46; 7:19, 22-23; Acts 13:39; 15:1, 21; Romans 10:19; 1st Corinthians 9:9; 2nd Corinthians 3:15

The title of the book

- 1) Hebrew—*bereshith* בְּרֵאשִׁית “in the beginning”
- 2) Greek Septuagint—*geneseos* γενέσεως “origins” (see *toledoth* above)
- 3) Latin Vulgate—*Liber Genesis* (“Book of Genesis”)

The main purposes of Genesis 1-11 (see Sailhamer’s “The Pentateuch as Narrative”, 81)

- 1) Moses intends to draw a line connecting the God of the fathers and the God of the Sinai covenant with the God who created the world.
- 2) Moses intends to show that the call of the patriarchs and the Sinai covenant have as their ultimate goal the reestablishment of God’s original purpose in Creation.