

Chapter 1 – The Pentateuch, Part 1

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Penta = five

B. A book of history

1. The history of Redemption
2. Recurrent Themes
 - a. Holiness of God
 - b. Sovereignty of God
 - c. Kingdom of God
 - d. Covenant Relationship
 - e. Love of God
 - f. Grace of God
 - g. Persistence of God
 - h. Patience of God
 - i. Faithfulness of God
 - j. Sinfulness of man

C. Outline of the books

1. Dates
2. Timing
3. People
4. Events

II. UNDERSTANDING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE OLD TESTAMENT AND THE NEW TESTAMENT

A. The Old Testament consists of 39 books

B. FIVE DISTINCT DIVISIONS

1. The Law
Genesis → Deuteronomy = The Pentateuch
2. History
Josh → Esther / Time of Judges and Kings
3. Poetry
Job → Song of Solomon
4. Major Prophets
Isaiah → Dan / Larger books
5. Minor Prophets
Hosea → Malachi / Smaller books
Normally covering only one event

JEWISH DIVISIONS

LAW

HISTORY

“

WRITINGS

C. Old Testament history covers about 1,500 years

(below are approximate dates – rounded to nearest 100 years)

1. Patriarchs 2000BC
2. Exodus 1400BC
3. David 1000BC
4. Isaiah 700BC

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 5. Deportation (captivity) | 600BC |
| 6. Return | 500BC |
| 7. Malachi | 400BC |

III. THE PENTATEUCH

A. Unique importance of the Pentateuch

1. Foundational
2. Conceptual
3. Roots
4. The Promise to US

B. AUTHORSHIP - Moses is the author of all five books

IV. GENESIS

A. Outline for reading

1. Genesis chapters 1-3 – Introduction and Foundation
 - a. Creation
 - b. The fall
 - c. The curse
2. Genesis chapters 4-11 – Degeneration through sin
 - a. Sin leads to judgment
 - b. A righteous remnant is saved by grace
 - c. Look for contrasts between these 2 groups throughout this section (wicked ungodly vs. righteous Godly)
3. Genesis chapters 12-50 – The Patriarchs
4. “I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob”

V. GENESIS CHAPTER ONE

A. Theme = the kingdom of God

1. The subject of this chapter is GOD
2. The universe is good
3. He created the universe with the spoken word
4. Scripture tells us He created the universe out of nothing!
 - a. Other religions see god as a created being
 - b. If God was created, that would put God & man on same level
 - c. In other religions, the gods need man & man needs the gods
 - d. This type of thinking leads to:
 - 1) Idolatry: anything can become a god
 - 2) Polytheism: there are many gods
 - 3) Pantheism: god is part of everything
 - 4) Humanism: man is god or man can become a god
5. Genesis gives an entirely different point of view

B. Creation is the first event in the Bible

1. The Lord didn't tell us where He came from
2. The first idea in the Bible is: God is King!

The last idea in Revelation is: God is King!

MASTER'S BIBLE SCHOOL

3. Isaiah 40

a. Verses 12-17 – God is the Creator and He is awesome!

¹² *Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, Measured heaven with a span And calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales And the hills in a balance?* ¹³ *Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, Or as His counselor has taught Him?* ¹⁴ *With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, And taught Him in the path of justice? Who taught Him knowledge, And showed Him the way of understanding?*

¹⁵ *Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, And are counted as the small dust on the scales; Look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing.* ¹⁶ *And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, Nor its beasts sufficient for a burnt offering.* ¹⁷ *All nations before Him are as nothing, And they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless.*

b. Verses 18-24 - Idolatry is wrong and foolish

To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him?

¹⁹ *The workman molds an image, The goldsmith overspreads it with gold, And the silversmith casts silver chains.* ²⁰ *Whoever is too impoverished for such a contribution Chooses a tree that will not rot; He seeks for himself a skillful workman To prepare a carved image that will not totter.*

²¹ *Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?*

²² *It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.* ²³ *He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless.*

²⁴ *Scarcely shall they be planted, Scarcely shall they be sown, Scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, When He will also blow on them, And they will wither, And the whirlwind will take them away like stubble.*

c. Verses 25-26 God is above all things

“To whom then will you liken Me, Or to whom shall I be equal?” says the Holy One. ²⁶ *Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing.*

4. Jeremiah 10

a. Verses 10-11 - The Lord God is the only true God and King!

But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, And the nations will not be able to endure His indignation.

¹¹ *Thus you shall say to them: “The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under these heavens.”*

b. Verses 12-14 - He alone has the power over all things

¹² *He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens at His discretion.* ¹³ *When He utters His voice, There is a multitude of waters in the heavens: “And He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth. He makes lightning for the rain, He brings the wind out of His treasures.”*

¹⁴ *Everyone is dull-hearted, without knowledge; Every metalsmith is put to shame by an image; For his molded image is falsehood, And there is no breath in them.*

5. Isaiah 45

a. Verses 5-10 - There is NO God besides Him!

⁵ *I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me, ⁶ That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That there is none besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; ⁷ I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the LORD, do all these things.'*

⁸ *"Rain down, you heavens, from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness; Let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation, And let righteousness spring up together. I, the LORD, have created it.*

⁹ *"Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork say, 'He has no hands'?" ¹⁰ Woe to him who says to his father, 'What are you begetting?' Or to the woman, 'What have you brought forth?'"*

b. He made you! So you have no room to complain.

C. God is sovereign

VI. GENESIS CHAPTER TWO

A. Theme: man is the master steward

1. Compare Genesis 2 with Revelation 21 & 22
2. Why is man important?
 - a. Because God decided to make it that way
 - b. There is no other reason
 - c. Our entire dignity depends on the choice of God

B. The nature of man is found in Genesis Chapter Two

1. Made in the image of God
2. Three in One
3. A living soul
4. The breath of life
5. A social being
6. A creative entity
7. Free moral agent
8. Eternal being
9. Desires a marriage (a partner) to make things good

C. There is more about the nature of man in Genesis 1 & 2 than in all other text books the world has to offer

D. God allowed the possibility of evil

1. He did this to guarantee the reality of free will and love

VII. CHAPTER THREE

A. Theme: sin and the gospel

B. Serpent was the vehicle of temptation

1. Cunning
2. Subtle
3. Questions the Word of God

C. Man is drawn away by the desires of the flesh

D. Chapter three covers the fall of man

1. Genesis 3 shows us the results of sin
 - a. Earth / man / animals / Satan
 - b. All creation groans waiting for the curse to be reversed
 - c. We are waiting for the return of Jesus and His Kingdom
2. The implications of the fall of man are universal
 - a. We must understand the full implications of sin
 - b. Only God can pull us out of it

Romans 5:21

so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

E. Proto-Evangelico

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

HOMEWORK

1. What was the curse found in Genesis chapter 3? Explain each thing cursed and the implications of that curse. Write your answer in this space provided.

2. Memorize the order of these Patriarchs and their wives:

<u>Patriarch</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>Children</u>
Abraham	Sarah	Isaac and Ishmael
Isaac	Rebecca	Jacob and Esau
Jacob	Rachel & Leah	Jacob had 12 sons
The sons of Jacob became the 12 tribes of Israel		

3. Read the story of the Patriarchs in the addendum to these notes.

ADDENDUM: THE PATRIARCHS PUT IN STORY FORM

God called Abraham to come out from Ur of the Caldees and go to a promised land. Abraham left with his wife Sarah and they began to travel. Eventually they came to the land of Canaan where they lived in tents. When they were old, God promised them a son. In the flesh they had Ishmael through Hagar, Sarah's handmaid. But Ishmael was not the promised child. God caused Sarah to be able to give birth even at an old age. She had a son named Isaac, which means "laughter." There was constant friction between Isaac and Ishmael as well as between Sarah and Hagar.

As Isaac grew it became obvious that he should have a wife, but who? Abraham and his family were the only "Jews." It was determined that Abraham's servant would return to their ancestral homeland to procure a wife for Isaac. God blessed Eliezer (we learned his name in Genesis 15:2) and he found Rebekah, who was willing to travel to an unknown place and marry an unknown man. When Eliezer and Isaac returned, they found Isaac out meditating in his father's field (now isn't that significant in light of Psalm 1). Isaac loved Rebekah from the moment they first saw one another. Soon twins were born to them, Esau and Jacob. There is a whole story of how Jacob had a heart for God even though he often tried to gain advantage using his own abilities instead of faith. Eventually Jacob obtained both the birth rite and the blessing of his father Isaac.

Jacob did, however, have to flee from his brother Esau and came to a well owned by a man named Laban, who happened to be related to Isaac, Jacob's father. It was there that Jacob fell in love with Laban's daughter Rachel. To obtain her hand in marriage, Jacob served Laban for seven years and was tricked by Laban into marrying Rachel's sister Leah. Yet Jacob was so much in love he agreed to serve another seven years for Rachel.

Eventually he became quite wealthy and returned to Israel where he was reunited with his brother Esau and they were able to reconcile. Jacob had twelve sons who became the twelve tribes of Israel. They were:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Reuben (Leah) | 7. Dan (Bilhah – Rachel's maid) |
| 2. Simeon (Leah) | 8. Naphtali (Bilhah) |
| 3. Levi (Leah) | 9. Gad (Zilpah – Leah's maid) |
| 4. Judah (Leah) | 10. Asher (Zilpah) |
| 5. Issachar (Leah) | 11. Joseph (Rachel) |
| 6. Zebulun (Leah) | 12. Benjamin (Rachel) |

Joseph was despised by his older brothers because Jacob loved him best. They sold him into slavery in Egypt and told their dad that a wild animal had eaten him. As the Lord worked it out, Joseph ended up being the Prime Minister of Egypt and the means of salvation for his family during a drought that caused a severe famine in Israel.

The Hebrews moved to Egypt to escape the famine and there they remained until the Exodus. Initially things went well for them, but generations after Joseph the Egyptians became suspicious of the Hebrews and enslaved them. Altogether the Jews were in Egypt for nearly 700 years.