

THE GOSPEL STORY

Lesson 2 "death through sin"

Text Under Consideration: Genesis 3-11

Scriptural & Historical Context:

A couple of matters need to be kept in mind when studying the early chapters of Genesis. First, God was not trying to establish a definite historical timeline. We simply do not know exactly when the events of Creation, the Fall or the Flood occurred. Taking the genealogies recorded in Genesis 5 & 11, along with other chronological information in Scripture, we can ascertain that Creation occurred at least 4000 years before the birth of Jesus and the Flood occurred at least 2500 years before. Second, God was not trying to give us a complete history of humanity in Genesis. Well over 1000 years elapsed between the Fall and the Flood and that large span of time was covered in only two chapters! Rather, God recorded the information we needed in order to realize a fundamental truth: we need salvation because death comes through sin (Romans 5.12)!

Key Verses & Events:

- 📖 Man and woman sin by disobeying God's command and are cast out of the Garden (Genesis 3).
- 📖 Because of the sinfulness of mankind, God sends a flood to destroy the earth. Righteous Noah and his family are saved (Genesis 6-10).
- 📖 Man continues to rebel against God, building a tower so they will not be dispersed on the earth. God confuses man's language (Genesis 11).
- 📖 "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15, ESV) The first promise of how the Messiah would redeem man.

Creation
Genesis 1-2 · Undated

The Flood
Genesis 6-9 · c. 2350 BC (trad.)

Abraham
Genesis 12-25 · c. 2000-1800 BC

The Exodus
Exodus · c. 1446 or 1270 BC

Conquest of Canaan
Joshua · c. 1406-1380 BC

David's Reign
2 Samuel · c. 1010-970 BC

Babylonian Captivity
2 Kings 25 · c. 605-539 BC

Return from Captivity
Ezra, Nehemiah · c. 538-432 BC

Life of Jesus
Gospels · c. 6/4 BC – AD 30/33

Establishment of the Church
Acts 2 · c. AD 30/33 (Pentecost)

The Story

1. God reveals what we _____ to know — not everything we're _____ about, but what's necessary for understanding His will and law.
2. Satan's three tactics — _____ God's words, directly _____ them, and casting _____ on God's character — remain effective throughout history.
3. Sin's root cause — mankind chose fleshly _____, _____ of the eyes, and _____ over obedience to God, falling for Satan's deceptions.
4. True death is _____ from God — not just physical death, but removal from God's presence, which explains both Hell and earthly suffering.
5. The _____ on creation — pain, sorrow, and suffering in the world result from mankind's _____ from God; they disappear when man is ultimately _____ with Him.
6. Sin is a _____ problem — from Cain's murder to the Flood to the Tower of Babel, Genesis 4–11 shows humanity repeatedly and increasingly departing from God.
7. All men sin _____ — Scripture teaches personal accountability for sin rather than inherited guilt, yet sin has spread to all people and always leads to death.
8. The gospel is _____ — the good news is that man can be forgiven and restored to relationship with God.
9. Noah as proof of _____ — God's rescue of righteous Noah demonstrates that He can and will save the godly.
10. The first gospel _____ — Genesis 3:15 introduces the coming of God's Son, whose victory over Satan is the thread running through the entire gospel story.

For Further Consideration

1. How do you see Satan using his tactics in your life? How does he distort God's word, contradict His word and/or prompt us to doubt God?
2. Why is it important to realize that each one of us is responsible for our own sins (Romans 3.23; James 1.14-15)? What happens if we don't take responsibility for our actions?
3. Read Hebrews 2.14-15. How did Jesus fulfill God's promise in Genesis 3.15?