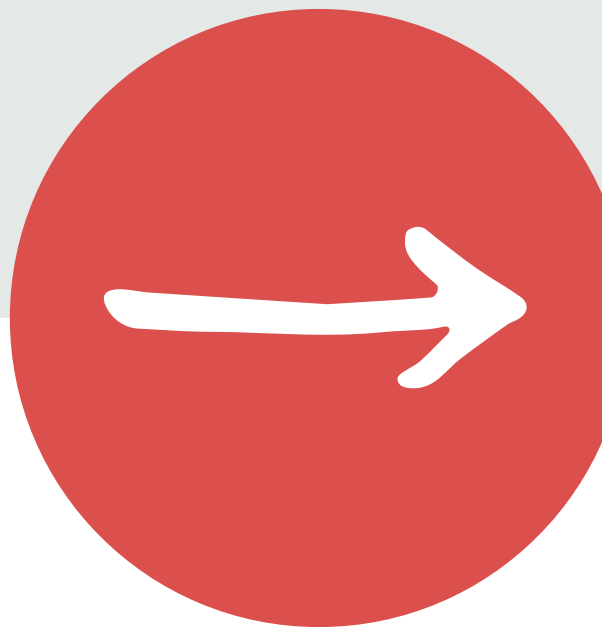




# SEVEN ARROWS

BIBLE



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## THE HOW-TO-STUDY BIBLE

God's Word is filled with boundless wisdom, but deciphering and understanding the text without a teacher can often be challenging. How, and where, do you start studying?

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WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY?



WHAT DID THIS PASSAGE MEAN  
TO ITS ORIGINAL AUDIENCE?



WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TELL US  
ABOUT GOD?



WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TELL US  
ABOUT MAN?



WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE DEMAND  
OF ME?



HOW DOES THIS PASSAGE CHANGE  
THE WAY I RELATE TO PEOPLE?



WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE PROMPT  
ME TO PRAY TO GOD?

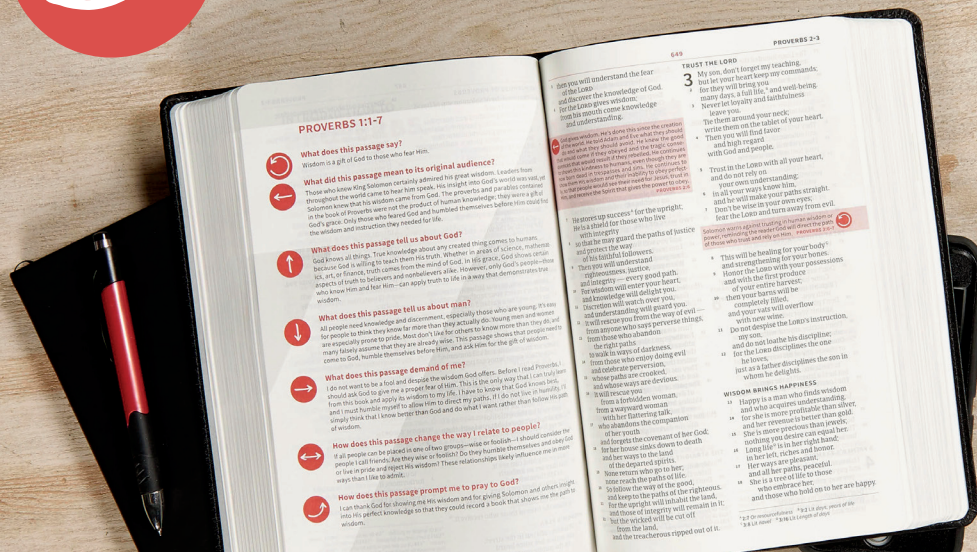
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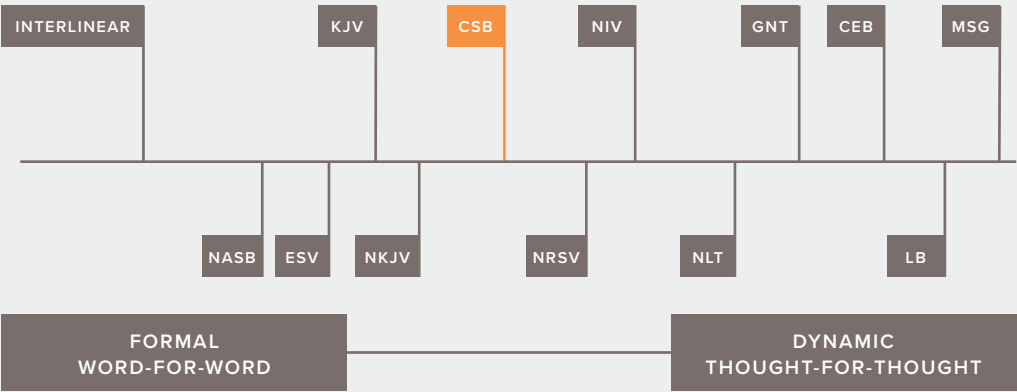
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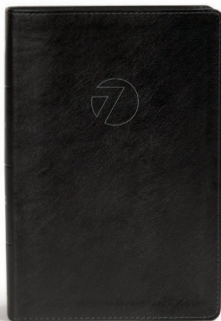


Bible translations shown in the top half of the chart are original translations directly from ancient languages to English. Versions shown below the line began with the English text of another Bible translation.

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A



B



C

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B	978-1-4336-4902-8	Hardcover	\$29.99
C	978-1-4627-9075-3	Crimson LeatherTouch®	\$39.99



# INTRODUCTION TO GENESIS

Genesis is a book of beginnings. The opening words set the stage for all that will follow: “In the beginning God . . .” God is the main character of the story, and the book of Genesis describes His majestic plan to fill the earth with His glory. God speaks all things into existence, creating a perfect world that shows off His greatness. He also places image-bearers, men and women, in this world to reflect His image and fill the earth.

The beautiful scene in the garden of Eden does not last long, however, as Satan tempts the first couple to doubt God’s love and disobey His commands. The first sin twists and distorts God’s grand design, ushering in the chaos and death that result from sin. The remainder of the book describes God’s plan to save sinners and fix the world broken by sin. God pledges to send a child, an offspring of Eve, who will one day crush the head of Satan, sin, and death forever (Gn 3:15). He even hints at the way that sin will be forgiven, as He offers a sacrifice to cover for the sins of Adam and Eve (Gn 3:21).

The primary focus of this story is on the call of Abraham and the emergence of God’s people—the nation of Israel—who would serve as the recipients of God’s promises and from whom would come the One who would make all things right once more. The stories throughout the book trace God’s faithfulness to His promises in spite of the sin of the people. God makes a covenant with the people, pledging to love them, save them, and dwell among them.

It is thought that Moses was the author of Genesis—probably writing it along with Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy while in the wilderness of Sinai. This writing would serve to formalize a unified record of God’s character and actions. Moses was best positioned to write these words because of the central role he played in leading God’s people and the authority that came with his position.


This book is the basis of God’s revelation of Himself, His character, and His mission in the world. Everything that follows in the Scripture — including Jesus’s life, death, burial, and resurrection — is built upon this foundation. The promises found in Genesis find their perfect and ultimate fulfillment in the person and work of Jesus Christ, who accomplishes God’s plan to save sinners and fix the world. ►



# THE CREATION

**1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

 God existed before all things. He designed everything we see in this world. From the beginning, God existed in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—who each played a role in creating the world and all that is in it. Since God is the Creator, everything in life is meant to function according to His design. He knows the purpose for everything He made, including people, and all things are made to function according to His plan.

GENESIS 1:1-2

<sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” There was an evening, and there was a morning: one day.

<sup>6</sup> Then God said, “Let there be an expanse between the waters, separating water from water.” <sup>7</sup> So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above the expanse. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the expanse “sky.”<sup>b</sup> Evening came and then morning: the second day.

<sup>9</sup> Then God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land “earth,” and the gathering of the water he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth produced vegetation: seed-bearing plants according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> Evening came and then morning: the third day.

<sup>14</sup> Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will serve as signs for seasons<sup>c</sup> and for days and years. <sup>15</sup> They will be lights in the expanse of the sky to provide light on the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night—as well as the stars. <sup>17</sup> God placed them in the expanse of the sky to provide light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> Evening came and then morning: the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> Then God said, “Let the water swarm with<sup>d</sup> living creatures, and let birds fly above

the earth across the expanse of the sky.” <sup>21</sup> So God created the large sea-creatures<sup>e</sup> and every living creature that moves and swarms in the water, according to their kinds. He also created every winged creature according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them: “Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters of the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.” <sup>23</sup> Evening came and then morning: the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that crawl, and the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> So God made the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that crawl on the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make man<sup>f</sup> in<sup>g</sup> our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth,<sup>h</sup> and the creatures that crawl<sup>i</sup> on the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image; he created him in<sup>j</sup> the image of God; he created them male and female.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls<sup>k</sup> on the earth.”

<sup>29</sup> God also said, “Look, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the surface of the entire earth and every tree whose fruit contains seed. This will be food for you, <sup>30</sup> for all the wildlife of the earth, for every bird of the sky, and for every creature that crawls on the earth—everything having the breath of life in it—I have given<sup>l</sup> every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed. Evening came and then morning: the sixth day.

**2** So the heavens and the earth and everything in them were completed. <sup>2</sup> On the seventh<sup>m</sup> day God had completed his work that he had done, and he rested<sup>n</sup> on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, for on it he rested from all his work of creation.<sup>o</sup>

<sup>a</sup>1:1 Or *created the universe* <sup>b</sup>1:8 Or “heavens.” <sup>c</sup>1:14 Or *for the appointed times* <sup>d</sup>1:20 Lit *with swarms of* <sup>e</sup>1:21 Or *created sea monsters* <sup>f</sup>1:26 Or *human beings*; Hb “adam, also in v. 27” <sup>g</sup>1:26 Or *as* <sup>h</sup>1:26 Syr *reads sky, and over every animal of the land* <sup>i</sup>1:26 Or *scurry* <sup>j</sup>1:27 Or *man as his own image; he created him as* <sup>k</sup>1:28 Or *and all scurrying animals* <sup>l</sup>1:30 I have given added for clarity <sup>m</sup>2:2 Sam, LXX, Syr *read sixth* <sup>n</sup>2:2 Or *ceased*, also in v. 3 <sup>o</sup>2:3 Lit *work that God created to make*

# GENESIS 1:26-28

## What does this passage say?

God completes His work of creation by designing a man and woman who reflect His image.



## What did this passage mean to its original audience?

Adam and Eve, and all those who heard or read about God's creation after them, know the value and mission of men and women. Because the hand of God fashioned and intimately formed them, Adam and Eve grasp their worth in God's eyes. Since they were given God's image and sent to reflect that image in the world, they would sense a God-given purpose for their lives. Knowing their value and their involvement in God's mission would produce rightful worship to God.



## What does this passage tell us about God?

God wants to be known and worshiped. He created men and women to share in a relationship with Him and to show off His greatness throughout all the world. He did not have to create, but He chose to design people and task them with representing Him to the world. Creation would never have happened were it not for God's desire to reveal Himself and His glory.



## What does this passage tell us about man?

Men and women alike are created in the image of God. Though they may reflect His image differently, both men and women are God's creations and have meaningful roles to play in His mission.



## What does this passage demand of me?

I do not have to question whether or not I matter to God or live in a constant panic over the perceptions of other people. As a child of God, I have worth and value because He made me and He loves me. Nothing anyone else says about me changes the fact that I matter to God and that He continually pursues me with His love. He gives purpose and meaning to my life as I reflect Him to the world.



## How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

I should treat other people with love and respect because all people are created in the image of God. Even though people may look, act, or talk differently than I do, they are no less valuable to God. He created all people to reflect His image, and I should love everyone.



## How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

I praise God for His power. He spoke all things into creation, including every person who has ever lived. I should thank Him for creating me and giving me the privilege of reflecting His image through my life. I should ask God to help me love others who are made in His image and to live a life that shows others the greatness of God.



## MAN AND WOMAN IN THE GARDEN

<sup>4</sup>These are the records of the heavens and the earth, concerning their creation. At the time<sup>a</sup> that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup>no shrub of the field had yet grown on the land,<sup>b</sup> and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not made it rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground. <sup>6</sup>But mist would come up from the earth and water all the ground. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD God formed the man out of the dust from the ground and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, and the man became a living being.



God took dirt and used it to fashion the first human. He then demonstrated His tender care for Adam by breathing life into the body He designed. All people, as descendants of Adam, have a physical body that lives and moves because of God's power bringing that body to life. Our bodies are nothing more than dust, and they will return to dust when we die, but until then, God breathes life into our bodies. **GENESIS 2:7**

<sup>8</sup>The LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he placed the man he had formed. <sup>9</sup>The LORD God caused to grow out of the ground every tree pleasing in appearance and good for food, including the tree of life in the middle of the garden, as well as the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup>A river went<sup>c</sup> out from Eden to water the garden. From there it divided and became the source of four rivers. <sup>11</sup>The name of the first is Pishon, which flows through the entire land of Havilah,<sup>e</sup> where there is gold. <sup>12</sup>Gold from that land is pure;<sup>f</sup> bdellium<sup>g</sup> and onyx<sup>h</sup> are also there. <sup>13</sup>The name of the second river is Gihon, which flows through the entire land of Cush. <sup>14</sup>The name of the third river is Tigris, which runs east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup>but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die." <sup>18</sup>Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper corresponding to him." <sup>19</sup>The LORD God formed out of the ground every wild animal and every bird of the sky, and brought each to the man to see what he would call it. And whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all the livestock, to the birds of the sky, and to every wild animal; but for the man<sup>i</sup> no helper was found corresponding to him. <sup>21</sup>So the

LORD God caused a deep sleep to come over the man, and he slept. God took one of his ribs and closed the flesh at that place. <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God made the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>And the man said:

This one, at last, is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called "woman," for she was taken from man.

<sup>24</sup>This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. <sup>25</sup>Both the man and his wife were naked, yet felt no shame.

## THE TEMPTATION AND THE FALL

**3** Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You can't eat from any tree in the garden?'"

<sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. <sup>3</sup>But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, 'You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.'"

<sup>4</sup>"No! You will not die," the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup>"In fact, God knows that when<sup>j</sup> you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God,<sup>k</sup> knowing good and evil."

<sup>6</sup>The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Satan, in the form of a serpent, tempts Adam and Eve to rebel against God by questioning His commandments and His goodness. Though God gave Adam and Eve all things to enjoy, Satan points their attention to the one thing that is off limits, lying about God and encouraging God's image-bearers to sin. **GENESIS 3:1-7**



## SIN'S CONSEQUENCES

<sup>8</sup>Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze,<sup>l</sup> and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

<sup>a</sup>2:4 Lit *creation on the day* <sup>b</sup>2:5 Or *earth* <sup>c</sup>2:10 Or *goes*

<sup>d</sup>2:10 Lit *became four heads* <sup>e</sup>2:11 Or *of the Havilah*

<sup>f</sup>2:12 Lit *good* <sup>g</sup>2:12 A yellowish, transparent gum resin

<sup>h</sup>2:12 Identity of this precious stone uncertain <sup>i</sup>2:20 Or *for Adam* <sup>j</sup>3:5 Lit *on the day* <sup>k</sup>3:5 Or *gods, or divine beings*

<sup>l</sup>3:8 Lit *at the wind of the day*

<sup>9</sup> So the LORD God called out to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

<sup>10</sup> And he said, "I heard you <sup>a</sup> in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."

<sup>11</sup> Then he asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

<sup>12</sup> The man replied, "The woman you gave to be with me — she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate."

<sup>13</sup> So the LORD God asked the woman, "What is this you have done?"

And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

<sup>14</sup> So the LORD God said to the serpent:  
Because you have done this,  
you are cursed more than  
any livestock  
and more than any wild animal.  
You will move on your belly  
and eat dust all the days  
of your life.



Everything God created is broken by sin. Childbirth, work, and human relationships will now be difficult. The man and woman, who were created to help one another accomplish God's mission in the world, will now fight with one another. This means I should anticipate difficulty in my relationships.

GENESIS 3:14-19

<sup>15</sup> I will put hostility between you  
and the woman,  
and between your offspring  
and her offspring.  
He will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.



Adam and Eve receive a glimmer of hope amid the consequences of their sin. Though their rebellion will bring pain and brokenness into the world, God has a plan to make all things right once again. He will send a child who will one day save sinners and fix the world. Satan will wound this promised One, but the child of Eve will ultimately crush the head of Satan, sin, and death forever.

GENESIS 3:15

<sup>16</sup> He said to the woman:  
I will intensify your labor pains;  
you will bear children  
with painful effort.  
Your desire will be for your husband,  
yet he will rule over you.

<sup>17</sup> And he said to the man, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'Do not eat from it':  
The ground is cursed because of you.  
You will eat from it by means of  
painful labor<sup>b</sup>  
all the days of your life.

<sup>18</sup> It will produce thorns and thistles  
for you,  
and you will eat the plants of the field.  
<sup>19</sup> You will eat bread<sup>c</sup> by the sweat  
of your brow  
until you return to the ground,  
since you were taken from it.  
For you are dust,  
and you will return to dust."

<sup>20</sup> The man named his wife Eve<sup>d</sup> because she was the mother of all the living. <sup>21</sup> The LORD God made clothing from skins for the man and his wife, and he clothed them.

Someone, or something, must die in order for sinful men and women to be forgiven their sins. Adam and Eve tried to cover their sin with fig leaves, but this did not work. God, in His mercy, had a better plan. He killed an animal and clothed them in this sacrifice. This reveals that God is the One who makes a plan to deal with the problem brought about by our sin, and His answer requires a blood sacrifice.

GENESIS 3:21



<sup>22</sup> The LORD God said, "Since the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil, he must not reach out, take from the tree of life, eat, and live forever." <sup>23</sup> So the LORD God sent him away from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup> He drove the man out and stationed the cherubim and the flaming, whirling sword east of the garden of Eden to guard the way to the tree of life.

#### CAIN MURDERS ABEL

**4** The man was intimate with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain. She said, "I have had a male child with the LORD's help."<sup>e</sup> <sup>2</sup> She also gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel became a shepherd of flocks, but Cain worked the ground. <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain presented some of the land's produce as an offering to the LORD. <sup>4</sup> And Abel also presented an offering — some of the firstborn of his flock and their fat portions. The LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but he did not have regard for Cain and his offering. Cain was furious, and he looked despondent.<sup>f</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you furious? And why do you look despondent?" <sup>7</sup> If you do what is right, won't you be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

<sup>a</sup> 3:10 Lit the sound of you <sup>b</sup> 3:17 Lit it through pain

<sup>c</sup> 3:19 Or food <sup>d</sup> 3:20 Lit Living, or Life <sup>e</sup> 4:1 Lit the LORD

<sup>f</sup> 4:5 Lit and his face fell <sup>g</sup> 4:6 Lit why has your face fallen

<sup>8</sup> Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." <sup>a</sup> And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

<sup>24</sup> If Cain is to be avenged seven times over, then for Lamech it will be seventy-seven times!



The first human relationships are destroyed by sin. Anger and murder result from the fall. Human relationships that are meant to be in a context of love and safety are often sources of great harm. This shows me that sin will affect all of my relationships, and I should strive to put sin to death because it wants to destroy those relationships God has given me.

GENESIS 4:8

<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's guardian?"

<sup>10</sup> Then he said, "What have you done? Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground! <sup>11</sup> So now you are cursed, alienated from the ground that opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood you have shed. <sup>12</sup> If you work the ground, it will never again give you its yield. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

<sup>13</sup> But Cain answered the LORD, "My punishment <sup>c</sup> is too great to bear! <sup>14</sup> Since you are banishing me to today from the face of the earth, and I must hide from your presence and become a restless wanderer on the earth, whoever finds me will kill me."

<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD replied to him, "In that case, <sup>d</sup> whoever kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over." <sup>e</sup> And he placed a mark on Cain so that whoever found him would not kill him. <sup>16</sup> Then Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

## THE LINE OF CAIN

<sup>17</sup> Cain was intimate with his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to Enosh. Then Cain became the builder of a city, and he named the city Enosh after his son. <sup>18</sup> Irad was born to Enosh, Irad fathered Mehujael, Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. <sup>19</sup> Lamech took two wives for himself, one named Adah and the other named Zillah. <sup>20</sup> Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of the nomadic herdsmen. <sup>f</sup> <sup>21</sup> His brother was named Jubal; he was the father of all who play the lyre and the flute. <sup>22</sup> Zillah bore Tubal-cain, who made all kinds of bronze and iron tools. Tubal-cain's sister was Naamah.

<sup>23</sup> Lamech said to his wives:

Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;  
wives of Lamech, pay attention  
to my words.

For I killed a man for wounding me,  
a young man for striking me.

<sup>25</sup> Adam was intimate with his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth, for she said, "God has given <sup>g</sup> me another child <sup>h</sup> in place of Abel, since Cain killed him."

<sup>26</sup> A son was born to Seth also, and he named him Enosh. At that time people began to call on the name of the LORD.

## THE LINE OF SETH

**5** This is the document containing the family' records of Adam. <sup>j</sup> On the day that God created man, <sup>k</sup> he made him in the likeness of God; <sup>2</sup> he created them male and female. When they were created, he blessed them and called them mankind. <sup>l</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Adam was 130 years old when he fathered a son in his likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth. <sup>4</sup> Adam lived 800 years after he fathered Seth, and he fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>5</sup> So Adam's life lasted 930 years; then he died.

<sup>6</sup> Seth was 105 years old when he fathered Enosh. <sup>7</sup> Seth lived 807 years after he fathered Enosh, and he fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>8</sup> So Seth's life lasted 912 years; then he died.

<sup>9</sup> Enosh was 90 years old when he fathered Kenan. <sup>10</sup> Enosh lived 815 years after he fathered Kenan, and he fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>11</sup> So Enosh's life lasted 905 years; then he died.

<sup>12</sup> Kenan was 70 years old when he fathered Mahalalel. <sup>13</sup> Kenan lived 840 years after he fathered Mahalalel, and he fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>14</sup> So Kenan's life lasted 910 years; then he died.

<sup>15</sup> Mahalalel was 65 years old when he fathered Jared. <sup>16</sup> Mahalalel lived 830 years after he fathered Jared, and he fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>17</sup> So Mahalalel's life lasted 895 years; then he died.

<sup>18</sup> Jared was 162 years old when he fathered Enosh. <sup>19</sup> Jared lived 800 years after he fathered Enosh, and he fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>20</sup> So Jared's life lasted 962 years; then he died.

<sup>21</sup> Enosh was 65 years old when he fathered Methuselah. <sup>22</sup> And after he fathered Methuselah, Enosh walked with God 300 years and

<sup>a</sup> 4:8 Sam, LXX, Syr, Vg; MT omits "Let's go out to the field."

<sup>b</sup> 4:11 Lit blood from your hand <sup>c</sup> 4:13 Or sin <sup>d</sup> 4:15 LXX, Syr, Vg read "Not so!" <sup>e</sup> 4:15 Or suffer severely <sup>f</sup> 4:20 Lit the dweller of tent and livestock <sup>g</sup> 4:25 The Hb word for given sounds like the name "Seth." <sup>h</sup> 4:25 Lit seed <sup>i</sup> 5:1 Lit written family <sup>j</sup> 5:1 Or mankind <sup>k</sup> 5:1 Or Adam, human beings <sup>l</sup> 5:2 Hb 'adam



fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>23</sup> So Enoch's life lasted 365 years. <sup>24</sup> Enoch walked with God; then he was not there because God took him.

<sup>25</sup> Methuselah was 187 years old when he fathered Lamech. <sup>26</sup> Methuselah lived 782 years after he fathered Lamech, and he fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>27</sup> So Methuselah's life lasted 969 years; then he died.

<sup>28</sup> Lamech was 182 years old when he fathered a son. <sup>29</sup> And he named him Noah,<sup>a</sup> saying, "This one will bring us relief from the agonizing labor of our hands, caused by the ground the LORD has cursed." <sup>30</sup> Lamech lived 595 years after he fathered Noah, and he fathered other sons and daughters. <sup>31</sup> So Lamech's life lasted 777 years; then he died.

<sup>32</sup> Noah was 500 years old, and he fathered Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

### SONS OF GOD AND DAUGHTERS OF MANKIND

**6** When mankind began to multiply on the earth and daughters were born to them, <sup>2</sup> the sons of God saw that the daughters of mankind were beautiful, and they took any they chose as wives<sup>b</sup> for themselves. <sup>3</sup> And the LORD said, "My Spirit will not remain<sup>c</sup> with<sup>d</sup> mankind forever, because they are corrupt.<sup>e</sup> Their days will be 120 years." <sup>4</sup> The Nephilim<sup>f</sup> were on the earth both in those days and afterward, when the sons of God came to the daughters of mankind, who bore children to them. They were the powerful men of old, the famous men.

### JUDGMENT DECREED

<sup>5</sup> When the LORD saw that human wickedness was widespread on the earth and that every inclination of the human mind was nothing but evil all the time, <sup>6</sup> the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and he was deeply grieved. <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I created, off the face of the earth, together with the animals, creatures that crawl, and birds of the sky — for I regret that I made them." <sup>8</sup> Noah, however, found favor with the LORD.

### GOD WARNS NOAH

<sup>9</sup> These are the family records of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among his contemporaries; Noah walked with God. <sup>10</sup> And Noah fathered three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

<sup>11</sup> Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with wickedness.<sup>h</sup>

<sup>12</sup> God saw how corrupt the earth was, for

every creature had corrupted its way on the earth. <sup>13</sup> Then God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to every creature, for the earth is filled with wickedness because of them; therefore I am going to destroy them along with the earth.

<sup>14</sup> "Make yourself an ark of gopher<sup>i</sup> wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it with pitch inside and outside. <sup>15</sup> This is how you are to make it: The ark will be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high.<sup>j</sup> <sup>16</sup> You are to make a roof,<sup>k</sup> finishing the sides of the ark to within eighteen inches<sup>l</sup> of the roof. You are to put a door in the side of the ark. Make it with lower, middle, and upper decks.

<sup>17</sup> "Understand that I am bringing a flood — floodwaters on the earth to destroy every creature under heaven with the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. <sup>18</sup> But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark with your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives. <sup>19</sup> You are also to bring into the ark two of all the living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. <sup>20</sup> Two of everything — from the birds according to their kinds, from the livestock according to their kinds, and from the animals that crawl on the ground according to their kinds — will come to you so that you can keep them alive. <sup>21</sup> Take with you every kind of food that is eaten; gather it as food for you and for them." <sup>22</sup> And Noah did this. He did everything that God had commanded him.

### ENTERING THE ARK

**7** Then the LORD said to Noah, "Enter the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. <sup>2</sup> You are to take with you seven pairs, a male and its female, of all the clean animals, and two of the animals that are not clean, a male and its female, <sup>3</sup> and seven pairs, male and female, of the birds of the sky — in order to keep offspring alive throughout the earth. <sup>4</sup> Seven days from now I will make it rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing I have made I will wipe off the face of the earth." <sup>5</sup> And Noah did everything that the LORD commanded him.

<sup>a</sup> 5:29 In Hb, the name *Noah* sounds like "bring us relief."

<sup>b</sup> 6:2 Or *women* <sup>c</sup> 6:3 Or *strive* <sup>d</sup> 6:3 Or *in* <sup>e</sup> 6:3 Lit *flesh*

<sup>f</sup> 6:4 Possibly means "fallen ones"; traditionally, "giants";

Nm 13:31-33 <sup>g</sup> 6:6 Lit was grieved to his heart <sup>h</sup> 6:11 Or *injustice*, also in v. 13 <sup>i</sup> 6:14 Unknown species of tree;

perhaps pine or cypress <sup>j</sup> 6:15 Or 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high <sup>k</sup> 6:16 Or *window*, or *hatch*; Hb uncertain <sup>l</sup> 6:16 Lit to a cubit



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