

# Genesis

Part 1 – Genesis 1-11 (Information Sheet)

An introduction to the book of Genesis, and an investigation of the creation of the world, humanity and the nations.

## Storing Up Treasures:

Discovering The Rich Teaching Of Scripture



### The Pentateuch

The Bible opens with the five books written by Moses which are often called the Pentateuch. The name Pentateuch comes from two Greek words *pente* meaning “five,” and *teuchos*, meaning “book.”

#### The Message Of The Pentateuch

The message of the Pentateuch as a whole is as fitting example of God’s work of salvation towards men in any age. As all men sin and fall short of their intended glory, so the Pentateuch begins with the ruin of man through sin at the genesis of creation. However, God took in the initiative to act in grace to redeem His chosen people from slavery through an historic exodus. God then speaks from heaven to set His people apart from the social and religious norms of their society (Leviticus, Numbers). Finally, Moses stands on the shore of their final destination and points to the promise land.

#### **The Pentateuch & The Story Of Man**

Genesis	Ruin	Through the sin of man
Exodus	Redemption	By “blood” and “power”
Leviticus	Communication	On the ground of atonement
Numbers	Direction	Guidance by the will of God
Deuteronomy	Destination	Through the faithfulness of God

#### **The Pentateuch & The Nature Of God**

Genesis	Divine Sovereignty	In creation & election
Exodus	Divine Power	In redemption & emancipation
Leviticus	Divine Holiness	In separation & sanctification
Numbers	Divine Goodness & Severity	Judging and caring
Deuteronomy	Divine Faithfulness	In discipline and destination

The Pentateuch And The New Testament

The message of the Pentateuch is clearly seen reflected in the flow of the New Testament. The Gospels make a deliberate connection to the book of Genesis. John's gospel begins with the very same words as Genesis 1:1, and goes on to tell that Jesus was the creative source of the world. Matthew begins with a genealogy rooted in the key Patriarchal promise in Genesis. Luke's genealogy goes back to Adam. Even Mark's gospel begins with Genesis, "The beginning of the gospel." The book of Acts then picks up the message of the Exodus, describing man's liberation from sin, where the reader sees the multitude escape slavery through the waters of baptism. The epistles do the job of providing much of the direction that is intended to sanctify the people of God. Finally, the book of Revelation set's it's reader on the rim of eternity and points our vision to the ultimate destination. Therefore, in the Pentateuch the Bible study has their first glimpse into how God deals with His people in any age.

*The Message Of The Pentateuch In The New Testament*

Initiation	⇒	Genesis	⇒	The Gospels
Liberation	⇒	Exodus	⇒	Acts
Sanctification	⇒	Leviticus / Numbers	⇒	Epistles
Destination	⇒	Deuteronomy	⇒	Revelation

**Memorable Structure Of Genesis!**

The Book of Genesis divides easily into two main sections, Genesis 1-11 & Genesis 12-50. The first section deals with four outstanding events. The second section deals with four outstanding people. The first section describes the beginnings of the human race. The section describes the beginnings of the Hebrew race. You would do well to commit these two main divisions and their sub-points to memory.

	<b>Genesis 1 – 11</b>	<b>Genesis 12 – 50</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time: Covers about 2000 years</li> <li>• Emphasizes the human race</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time: Covers about 300 years</li> <li>• Emphasizes the Hebrew race</li> </ul>	
<i>Events!</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Creation (1 – 2)</li> <li>2. Fall (3 – 5)</li> <li>3. The Flood (6 – 9)</li> <li>4. The Tower (10 – 11)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Abraham (12:1 – 25:28)</li> <li>2. Isaac (25:19 – 27)</li> <li>3. Jacob (28 – 36)</li> <li>4. Joseph (37 – 50)</li> </ul>	<i>People!</i>

See, "God's Masterwork," Charles Swindoll

## Outline Of Genesis 1 – 11

- I. **The Creation Of All Things** (Gen. 1 – 2)
  - A. Six days Of creation
  - B. One day Of rest
- II. **The Corruption Of All Things** (Gen. 3 – 5)
  - A. The subtlety of Satan
  - B. The sin of Adam
  - C. The redemption of God
  - D. The murder of Abel
- III. **The Condemnation Of All Things** (Gen. 6 – 9)
  - A. The Conditions prior to the flood (6)
  - B. The Salvation through the flood (7 - 8)
  - C. The Tragedy following the flood (9)
- IV. **The Confusion Of All Things** (Gen. 10-11)
  - A. The arrogance of man
  - B. The judgment of God
  - C. The origin of nations

See, "Guide to the Bible," Wilmington

## The Wisdom Of Creation

### The Order Of Revelation

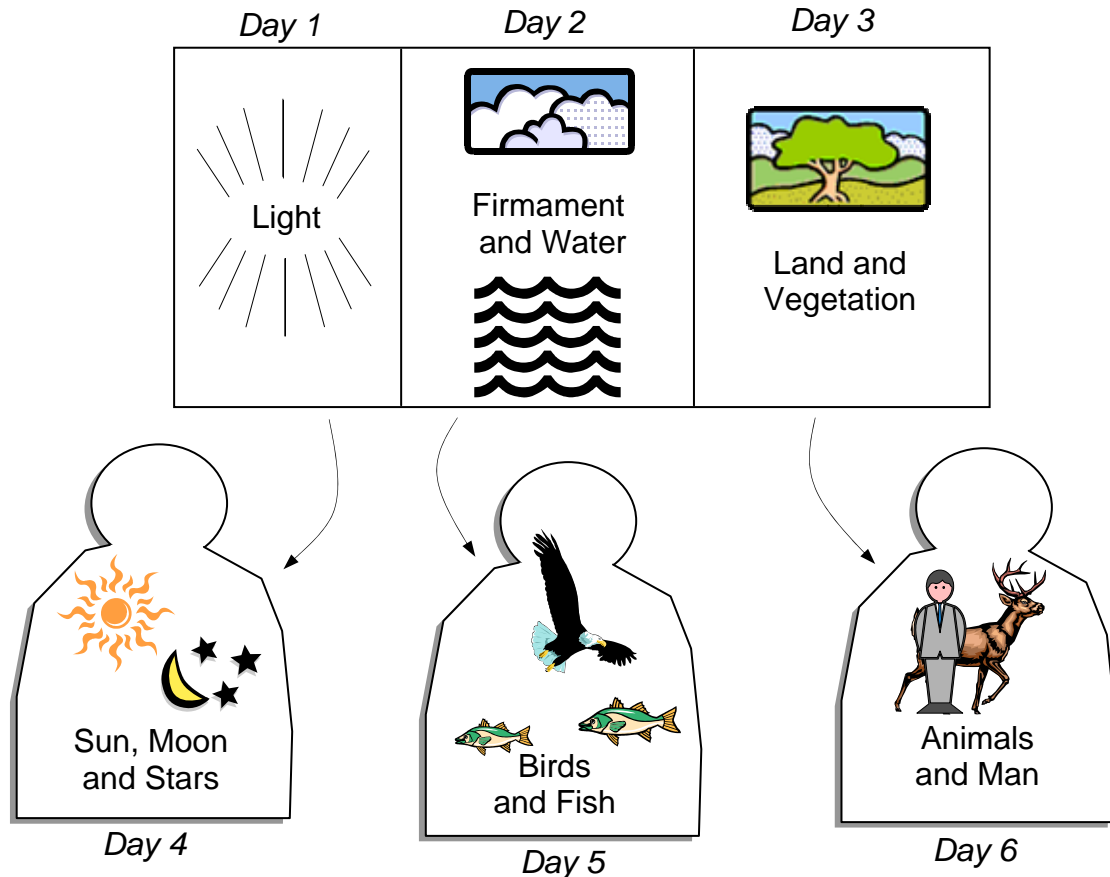
The wisdom of Creation is seen in the order of the creation itself, and in the wisdom in which Moses recorded it. In Genesis 1 Moses gives us a broad, sweeping account of God's creation of the universe. Then in chapter 2 he goes back and gives us a focused, specific account of God's creation of humanity. The chart below will give you a the twofold account of THE creation.

### **Twofold Account Of THE Creation**

<b><i>The Floodlight Account (Genesis 1)</i></b>	<b><i>The Spotlight Account (Genesis 2)</i></b>
A General Description Of The Creation Of The Universe	A Specific Description Of The Creation Of Humanity
A Chronological Account	A Topical Account

The Order Of Creation

The account of Creation in Genesis 1 is not meant to be a scientific discourse on the origin of matter. I doubt we could ever understand it, even if it was! Nevertheless, the brief account given shows an amazingly creative and wise God. For example, there is a parallel between the first three days and last three days of creation. The first three days of creation provide the backdrop for the actors who step onto the stage in the last three days. The chart below pictures this connection.



See, "Guide to the Bible," Wilmington

**God's Judgment On Sin**

God has established an irrevocable, eternal law that sin must be punished. In the beginning God told man that violating His law would result in death. In Genesis 3 we are introduced to the horror of sin. The most devastating consequence of sin was being put away from the presence of God. In addition to this God pronounced judgment that day against four persons.

**Fourfold Judgment on Sin**

<b>Upon Man</b>	Wearisome toil
<b>Upon Woman</b>	Suffering in childbirth Subordination to man
<b>Upon The Serpent</b>	To crawl on it's belly
<b>Upon Satan</b>	To suffer a fatal head wound

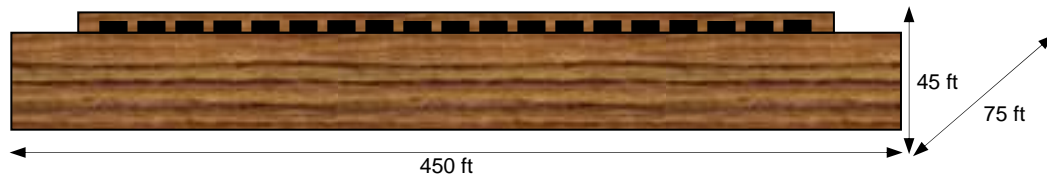
## The Flood



### The Facts:

How long did the flood last? 371 days.

How big was the ark?



It was 450 feet long. 75 feet wide. 45 feet high

It is estimated that the total animal population would not have exceeded 35,000 vertebrates. The *average* size would be that of a sheep. Using a modern train of 150 boxcars could carry this number of animals. The Ark had the carrying capacity of over 520 boxcars! It had the total deck area of 97,700 square feet.

However, when all this has been said it should be realized that the God who make a world wide flood, and who created all living things in the first place, can preserve them anyway He wishes. It would be a mistake to eliminate the miraculous from the flood account.

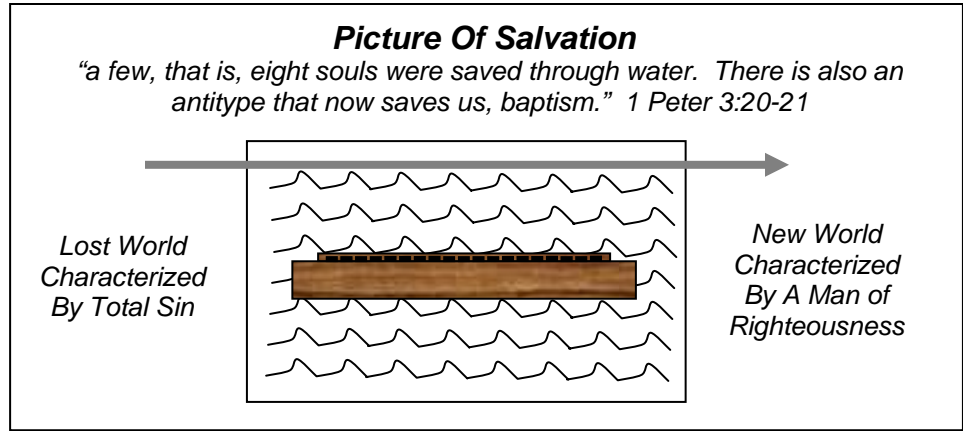
### The Meaning:

The flood is a powerful metaphor in Scripture because it tells us so much about the nature of God, and the nature of Man.



For example, the flood is a **picture of salvation**. It shows us God's grace in saving the righteous Peter makes this use of the flood in his book saying,

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, <sup>19</sup>by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.” (1 Peter 3:18-22).



**Two Other Similar Pictures.** In this regard consider also the picture of salvation in the exodus through the Red Sea (Exodus 14). In 1 Corinthians 10 Paul says it too is a picture of salvation that involves the water imagery. Naaman is also used by the Lord as a picture of salvation in Luke 4:27, a salvation that also used the water imagery (2 Kings 5.)

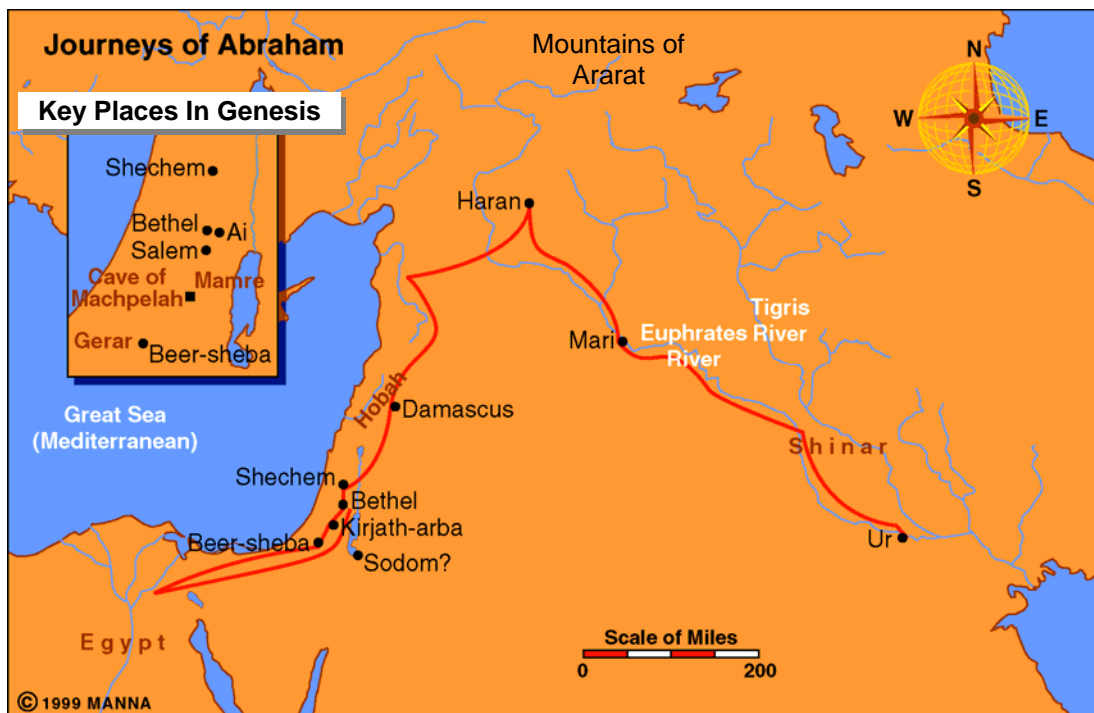


In addition, the flood is also used as **picture of judgment**. Both Peter and Jesus used it this way.

*The Flood Speaks Of God's Judgment!*

<b>Jesus</b>	Matthew 24:37-38	<i>Surprise Of God's Judgment</i>	Jesus uses the flood to talk about how the unrighteous will be caught by surprise by the coming of God's judgment.
<b>Peter</b>	2 Peter 3:1-9	<i>Certainty Of God's Judgment</i>	Peter uses the flood to talk about the certainty of God's coming judgment, urging believers to live in the light of Christ's return

## Key Places In Genesis



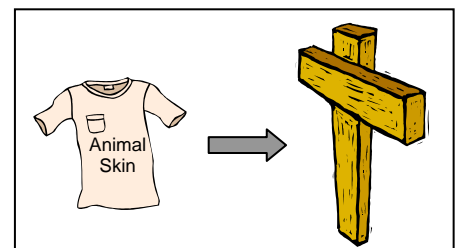
## Seeing The Savior

*Hearing The Message Of The Bible*



## God Made The Clothes!

*"Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them"* (Genesis 3:21). The first animal killed to cover sin was in Genesis 3. God was setting up a principle that without the shedding of blood there can be no atonement, no covering of sin. The sacrificial system of the Old Covenant continued that theme, and the cross of Christ brought that theme to its fulfillment. Christ's blood was shed that covered our shame! It's a connection that is intended to show us the deep horror of sin.



Up until now I don't believe this couple had known about death. They've never killed animals for clothes. They've never killed animals for food, because they were vegetarians. So now, for the first time, as far as I can tell, they are seeing death and *God is slaying the innocent so that the guilty might be preserved*. And this was man's first exposure to the possibility that the death of the innocent could atone for, or cover the sin of the guilty (John 1:29).

And it was God's doing. He, by His grace made it available. Our fig leaves, no matter how beautiful will not do.

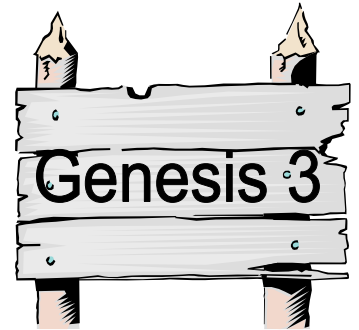
## A Bruise & A Crush!

Genesis 3:15 is the first and one of the most significant prophecies about Christ in the Bible. We have listed it as one of our five “Signpost to the Savior” in the Old Testament. Man’s fundamental problem is sin and the curse it brings into our world and our lives. Man would be hopeless to deal with it on his own. But, God made this promise, to Satan, but it was the greatest blessing man could hear.

*“<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will **crush** your head, and you will **strike** his heel.” (Genesis 3:15).*

On the cross Jesus was bruised by the consequences of our sins, but it was not a mortal blow—He was raised from the dead. Satan, however at the cross his power over man was totally crushed, the fear of death was removed because sin had been death with. At the cross you can hear the cry of the Savior being bruised, but you can hear the wail of Satan being crushed. The Hebrew author makes this connection for us.

*“<sup>14</sup>Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might **destroy** him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.” (Hebrews 2:14-15).*

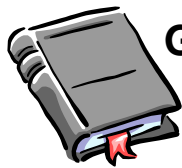


## Speaking One Language!

At the tower of Babel man’s arrogance caused God to confuse their language. They were divided and went off into different places and nations. In Christ all people, whatever their language, where ever they live can be ONE with God and ONE with each other. The arrogance of Babel is silenced in those who humbly come to the cross.

*“There is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.” (Colossians 3:11).*

*“<sup>28</sup>There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:28).*



# Genesis

Part 2 – Genesis 12-31 (Information Sheet)

An overview of the lives of Abraham, Isaac, and parts of Jacob.

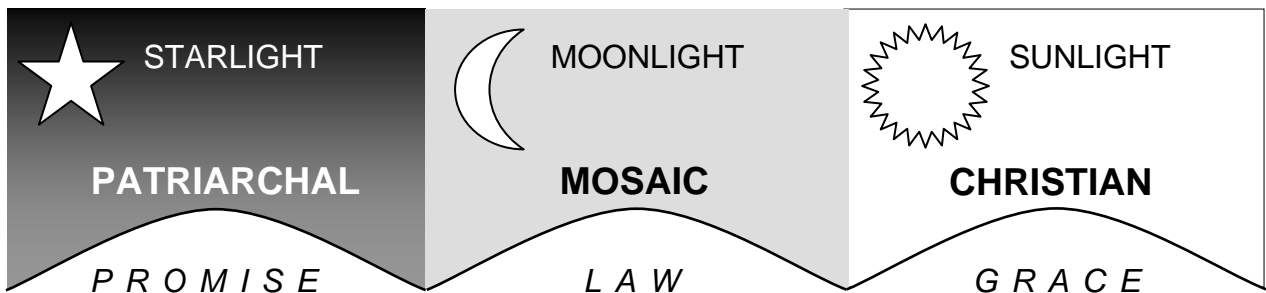
## Storing Up Treasures:

Discovering The Rich Teaching Of Scripture



### Three Dispensations

A dispensation describes the way God revealed His will to mankind at a particular time. When you take a broad view of history you find God has dealt with mankind in three different dispensations. This is not the only way to divide up Biblical history, but it helpful in remembering three different ways God communicated with man.



#### The Patriarchal Age:

**Communcation:** In the beginning of time God communicated his will to the principal fathers called Patriarchs. This is sometimes called the *starlight dispensation* because the divine revelation given to lighten the world was mainly limited to these chosen fathers.

**Worship:** The worship of the patriarchal age was centered around the *altar*. Ofers on the altar began as early as Able (Genesis 4:3-4). Noah and Abraham also built altars (Genesis 8:20; 12:8), as did the other patriarchs.

**Character:** The patriarchal dispensation is characterized by *promise* because of the many promises made that pointed to a future nation and salvation.

#### The Mosaic Age:

**Communcation:** A new dispensation began when God gave the law to His chosen people through Moses at Mount Siani, thus it's called the Mosaic age. It is a communicaiton largely limited to the Jewish nation. It can be seen as a *moonlight period* in God's revelation, brighter than Partriarchal, because the revelation of God's Law gave added ligh tto guide mankind.

**Worship:** The worship of this age was centered around first the *tabernacle*, then the *temple* and finally the *synagogue*. The worship was largely administered through the priest on behalf of the people.

**Character:** The Mosaic age is characterized by the *Law*. The Law created order for the nation, and exposed the sinfulness of man.

#### The Christian Age:

**Communcation:** The brightest and fullest revelation of God is seen in the Christian age. It can be called the *sunlight* era of God's revelation because through Christ and His apostles we have a the most complete and biliantant understanding of God's will.

**Worship:** The worship in the Christian era is through the *church*, both collectively and individually (1 Peter 2:4-5; Romans 12:1-2).

**Character:** While God's dealings with man have always been characterized by grace, the Christian age finds *grace* at the heart is it's message. Particularly grace in regard to dealing with the guilt of our sins.

## The Purpose Of Genesis

The value of the book of Genesis is immeasurable! It's a book of beginnings. It's hard to know where you're at, or why you're there unless you know where you started. Genesis gives us that point of reference for the beginning of the human and Hebrew race. Therefore, it is a book that has immense value in helping us navigate the story of Scripture.

But, perhaps a more fundamental question to ask is, "What did Genesis mean to it's first readers? What value did this book have to them?" They didn't need it's message to guide their understanding of the rest of Scripture, there was none at this point.

Moses wrote Genesis during a period when the Hebrews groaned under the heavy burden of Egyptian bondage (Exodus 2:23). As a young man Moses knew he belonged to this oppressed people. And the stories of Genesis God gave him were a reminder to him and others that God had made promises to the Hebrews that He would fulfill. This served to revive the hope of God's chosen people. Simply put the application of Genesis to it's first readers was simply this:



***"God has made a promise! God is Faithful!  
Therefore I will live in faithful hope!"***

*Associated Press—Dateline 1440 BC, This morning a Hebrew was overheard making this statement after reading the book of Genesis during these 40 years of wandering in the wilderness.*

## Outline Of Genesis 12-50

The book of Genesis divides into two main sections. Chapters 1 – 11 deal with four main events: The Creation, The Fall, The Flood, and The Tower. The last half of the book, chapters 12 – 50 with four main people, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. The stories of these four key patriarchs are somewhat intertwined, however the general outline below will help you define the chapter limits and nature of each man's story.

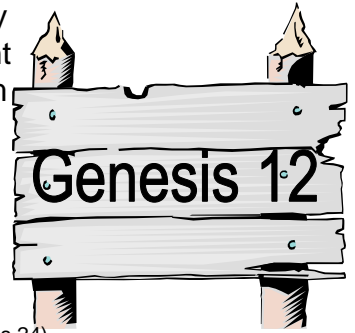
<b><i>Abraham</i></b> – The Faithful	Genesis 12 – 24
<b><i>Isaac</i></b> – The Humble	Genesis 25 – 27
<b><i>Jacob</i></b> – The Transformed	Genesis 28 – 36
<b><i>Joseph</i></b> – The True	Genesis 37 – 50





Concept from "Exploring the Old Testament" Purkiser

From each man we learn essential lessons on faith by witnessing their successes and their failures.

## Foundational Promise!

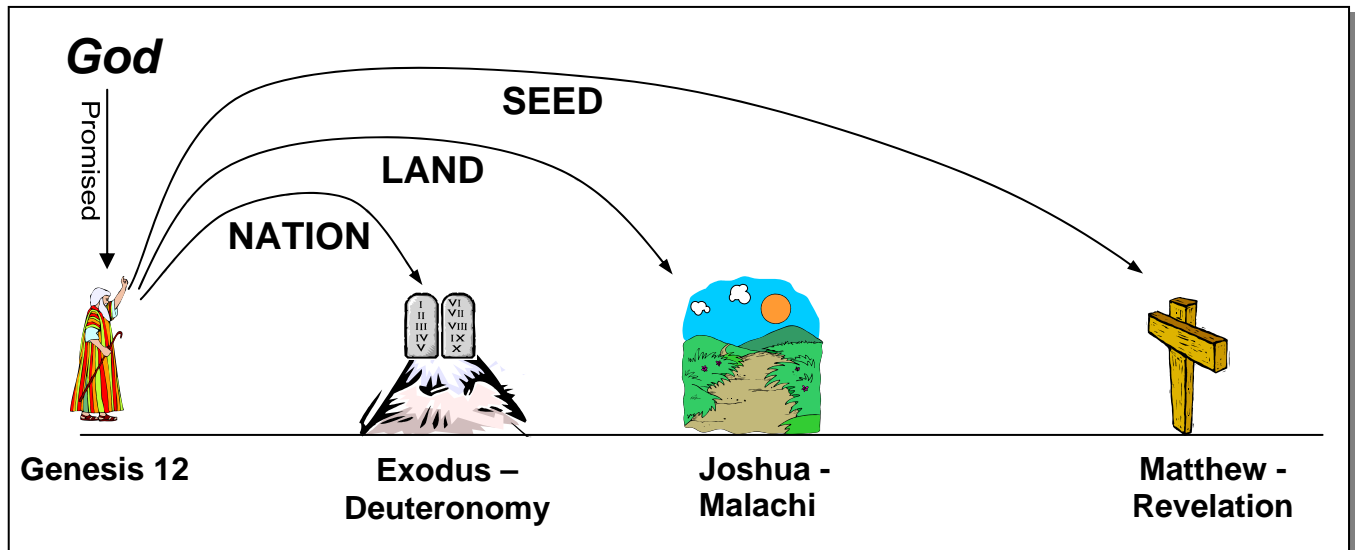
Jehovah is a covenant making God! At the dawn of time God made a promise that a descendant of Eve would arise that would destroy the power of Satan (Genesis 3:15). Later God made a covenant with Noah after the flood, not to destroy the earth again by water (Genesis 9:11). One of the most significant covenants God made is Scripture is the one He made with Abraham in Genesis 12. Therefore it becomes our second, "Signpost to the Savior." It is the first of four great biblical covenants introduced in the Old Testament.



-  The Abrahamic Coveant – Promising a goodly land (Genesis 12, 15)
-  Mosaic Covenant – Promising a grieving redeemer (Exodus 24)
-  The Davidic Coveant – Promising a glorious king (2 Samuel 7)
-  The New Covenant – Promising a godly people (Jeremiah 31)

### The Bible's Table Of Contents:

A careful reading of Genesis 12 will reveal seven promises God made Abraham, however, three of those promises are particularly important to the Biblical story. In fact, the fulfillment of these three promises is the subject matter of the rest of the Bible. If the Bible contained it's own "Table of Contents" this would be it: It's a story about a nation, a land and a Seed. This timeline shows the promise and it's fulfillment.



Each of God's promises to Abraham have been completely fulfilled. In this God shows Himself to be faithful to His word, powerful to accomplish His will, mindful of man's needs. Any doctrine that denies God's fulfillment of these promises denies the Biblical nature of God, and the clear teaching of Scripture as the following chart makes clear.

## ***The Fulfillment of The Abrahamic Covenant***

A Nation	<i>"I will make you a great nation"</i> (Gen. 12:2)	Israel came to Mount Sinai where God made a covenant with them as a nation (Exodus 19-34)
A Land	<i>"To your descendants I have a given this land."</i> (Gen. 12:1, 15:18)	Israel entered the land of Canaan under Joshua. This fulfilled God's land promise. No promise of a land is still outstanding. <i><sup>14</sup>You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed."</i> (Joshua 23:14). <i><sup>7</sup>"You are the Lord God, who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and named him Abraham. <sup>8</sup>You found his heart faithful to you, and you made a covenant with him to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Jebusites and Girgashites. You have kept your promise because you are righteous."</i> (Nehemiah 9:7-8).
A Seed	<i>"In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."</i> (Gen. 12:3)	Through the family of Abraham came Jesus Christ who was the "Seed" that would bless the earth. <i><sup>25</sup>And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed. <sup>26</sup>When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.'"</i> (Acts 3:25-26). <i><sup>16</sup>The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ."</i> (Galatians 3:16).

### **"Blessings & Curseings"**

Genesis 3 describes the "Fall of Man" into sin. As God addresses each participant in the sin He says, "Cursed...", and these curses were universal in their scope. In contrast, in Genesis 12 God continues to undo the curse of man's sin by promising to Abraham that through one of his descendants "all the nations would be *blessed*." God was going to exchange man's "curse" with "blessing" through Christ!

### **Genesis 15 – A Blood Covenant**

In those days they didn't have lawyers and legal documents and so if you wanted to make an agreement with someone there were various covenant you could make.

*The Shoe Covenant:* The way you showed that the transaction sealed was you traded shoes (See Ruth 4).

*The Salt Covenant:* If you made someone a promise or a pledge you would give them a pinch of salt out of your bag and place it in theirs. This was to be a solid oath, because the only way you could be released from it was to take you salt back, which was very difficult having mixed with the other.

*The Blood Covenant:* The most binding covenant of all was called the blood covenant. To make the blood covenant you would kill some animals and cut them in two along the back bone, and you would lay the two halves opposite each other. Then the parties involved in the covenant would walk between the bloody carcasses and pledge to be faithful to their part of the covenant. And the idea was, “*May who ever breaks this covenant share the same fate as these animals*” (see Jeremiah 34). Then after making the covenant they would take one half of the animal and offer it as a burnt offering, which of course would be completely consumed. And then, they offered the other half as a peace offering. And then they would sit down together and seal the whole deal by eating the peace offering together.

The Hebrew word for “covenant” is *berith*, which is derived from a word which means “to eat.” Because eating was the ancient method of covenant making. The sacrifice would be cut and then eaten, then the covenant was established.

### **God’s Blood Covenant With Abraham (Genesis 15):**

God made a blood covenant with Abraham that He would make Abraham’s descendants a nation (15:13-14), give them the land of Canaan (15:18), and take Abraham home in peace (15:15). To seal this covenant God had Abraham sacrifice some animals, cut them in half, and lay the halves opposite one another. Then God, in the form of a smoking firepot and a torch passed through the carcasses alone. ***Alone is the key.*** God is making Abraham an unconditional promise, it rest solely upon God to fulfill it. God made salvation possible through Christ solely upon the basis of His grace.



### **God’s Blood Covenant With Israel (Exodus 24):**

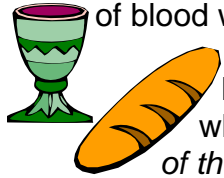
God chose to make a covenant with Israel in a very similar way, some 400 years latter. At Sinai God gave His Law, and the people said, “*All the words which the Lord has said we will do.*” And they sacrificed some animals, cut them in two, offered half the animal as a burnt offering, and the other half as a peace offering. Then Moses took the blood and read the book of the covenant in the hearing of the people and sprinkled the people with the blood and said, “This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words.” Exodus 24:8



And then they took the peace offering and ate and drank them in the very presence of God (Exodus 24:3-11).

## God's Blood Covenant With Us (Matthew 26:28):

Our burnt offering, our peace offering is Jesus. Through Him God has made of covenant of blood with us. Not the blood of animals, but the blood of His own sinless Son. And through that blood God has said, "I will forgive your sins." And in fact, He has given us a weekly remembrance of this covenant. Do you remember what Moses said when God made the covenant with Israel, "*This is the blood of the covenant.*" Compare those to the words of Jesus in Matthew 26:28, 28 "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:28



Christ is our peace offering to God, and today we symbolically eat His flesh and drink His blood in the Lord's Supper. When we partake of the Lord's Supper we affirm a covenant which was inaugurated and made possible by the real body and blood of the Lord. The Lord's Supper is a weekly affirmation of the covenant we have with God (See 1 Cor. 10:21; 11:27-29).

## **Genesis 17 – The Sign Of The Covenant**

An external, physical sign of the covenant was ordained by God. Along with Abraham and Sarah's new names, which themselves were signs of God's covenant, all the males in the house were to be circumcised. "*You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you*" (Gen. 17:10-11). Unlike the covenant made with Noah that included all humanity, the one made with Abraham was only for those who would acknowledge and claim God's gracious offer. In circumcision the Hebrew was declaring three things.

**"I'm Committed To God."** First, he was saying, "I'm committed to God." It was a physical "brand" on the individual that announced his commitment to Yahweh. It was done in submission to God's law on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of a child's life as a way of dedicating the entire life to the Lord.

Committed!  
Community!  
Consecrated!



**"I'm Part Of The Community Of God."** In circumcision a Hebrew was also saying, "I'm part of the community of God." It was a shared experience of every male within every Jewish family. It was their sign that they were a part of the community of God. In fact, if one refused circumcision they were rejected from the community of God's people. "*Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.*" (Genesis 17:14).

**"I'm Consecrated To God."** Thirdly, in circumcision a Hebrew was also saying, "I'm consecrated to God. I'm through with my sinful ways." When Israel crossed the Jordan River under Joshua and took possession of the land the Lord required the people to circumcise all the men who had been born during the wilderness wanderings. By this act of obedience it says God "*rolled away the reproach of Egypt*" (Joshua 5:9). The people were pledging to reject the ways of the heathen.

**The Circumcision Of Christ:**

In the New Testament Circumcision is seen as a foreshadowing of Baptism. As with most types the parallels are not meant to be seen in every element, but the general purposes are strikingly similar. Paul makes this connection in Colossians 2:11-12,

*“<sup>1</sup>In Him [Christ] you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>2</sup>buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.”*  
(Colossians 2:11-12).

When a person is baptized in faith of what Christ has done on their behalf, God does the work of cutting off the “body” of their sins. That’s why a person who will not be baptized for the forgiveness of their sins is not in the chosen family of God, because it is where God removes their sins that enables them to be brought into a relationship with a holy God. The role of baptism is similar to circumcision in many ways.

**An Act Of Commitment To God.** It is an act of commitment to God. It is done *“In the name of Jesus Christ”* (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48), identifying commitment to Him as Lord.



Committed!  
Community!  
Consecrated!

**A Mark Of Belonging To God’s Community.** Baptism, like circumcision, does not only say you’re committed to God, but you are committed to God’s community. Many passages speak of being baptized *“into Christ,”* where *“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”* (Galatians 3:28).

**A Mark of Consecration To Christ.** Baptism is a statement that you reject the ways of the world. You’re going to live a new life, with new priorities, and new purpose.

*“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”* (Romans 6:4).

*“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”* (Colossians 3:1-3).

with modification from “Genesis” Shelly

**A Name For Your Need**

The early Hebrews had a wonderful way of naming a place, or calling the name of God when He did something great in their lives. By doing this they reminded themselves God is alive, meaningful and active in their lives, and with each new name God tells us a little more of His nature and His willingness to be relevant to our lives.

<b>The Name</b>	<b>The Meaning</b>	<b>The Scripture</b>
Elohim	“God” God’s power and might	Genesis 1:1
Jehovah (Yahweh)	“Lord” God’s eternal nature	Genesis 2:4
El-Elyon	“The Most High God”	Genesis 14:17-20
El-Roi	“The One Who Sees”	Genesis 16:12
El-Shaddi	“God Almighty”	Genesis 17:1
Jehovah-Jireh	“The Lord will provide”	Genesis 22:13-14
Beersheba (place)	“Well of the oath”	Genesis 21:31; 26:32
Bethel (place)	“House of God”	Genesis 28:19

## God's Work With The Barren

Throughout Scripture, and especially in the Genesis account, it's interesting to see how often God used the barren (those would could not have children) to do some of His most powerful work. The patriarch's wives all suffered from bareness, yet God worked through them to do great things. Consider the barren God has used

<b><i>The Barren</i></b>	<b><i>⇒</i></b>	<b><i>Had...</i></b>
Sarah	⇒	Isaac, the son of promise
Rebekah	⇒	Jacob, the son of the nation
Rachel	⇒	Joseph, the son of salvation
Manoah's wife	⇒	Samson, the son of deliverance
Hannah	⇒	Samuel, the son who anointed kings
Elizabeth	⇒	John, the son who announced the Lord

Why did God work through the barren so often? Here are a couple of thoughts.

***That He Might Receive The Glory!*** By working through the barren God ensured that it was obvious to all that what was done was "the Lord's doing." A look at each of these births will show that it was God who was at work, it was God who was glorified.

***That He Might Reveal Our Poverty!*** God also worked through the barren, because barrenness are the best illustration of humanity without God, a lifeless, hopeless future. From the moment man was thrust out of the garden to work among the thorns, barrenness has been his lot. But God can graciously work through our barrenness to give life. Each example of the barren being used is another example of how God life out of death, both physically and spiritually (Romans 4:17). The God of creation has the power of regeneration!

## The Sister Stories

Living by faith requires trusting in God, not human wisdom as evidenced in three stories where the Patriarchs felt they had to lie to save themselves. These stories are also a sad commentary on how the sins of the father tend to be repeated by the sons.

<b>Genesis 12:10-20</b>	<b>Genesis 20:1-8</b>	<b>Genesis 26:1-11</b>
Famine in the land (10)	—	Famine in the land (1)
Beauty of Sarai (11)	—	Beauty of Rebekah (7)
Deception as sister (13)	Deception as sister (2)	Deception as sister (7)
Fear of death (13)	Fear of death (11)	Fear of death (7)
Egyptians saw her (14)	—	Men of that place asked (7)
Taken by Pharaoh (15)	Taken by Abimelech (2)	—
Wealth to Abram (16)	Wealth to Abram (14-16)	—
Plagues (17)	Warning dream (3-7)	Observed by Abimelech (8)
Abraham rebuked (18-19)	Abraham rebuked (9-10)	Isaac rebuked (9)
Expulsion (20)	Prayer of Abraham and healing of wombs (17)	—

# Seeing The Savior

Hearing The Message Of The Bible



## Melchizedek – The King - Priest

Melchizedek shows up out of nowhere, and he disappears just as quickly, and yet he is one of the most significant pictures of Jesus in the Old Testament. A thousand years later David is prophesying about the greatness of the coming Savior and Melchizedek's name shows up again (Psalm 110:1,4). Then, again the Bible is silent about this man for a thousand more years, until the writer of Hebrews looks at Jesus through the lens of this godly king of Salem, and says,

“<sup>1</sup>For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, <sup>2</sup>to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated “king of righteousness,” and then also king of Salem, meaning “king of peace,” <sup>3</sup>without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.” (Hebrews 7:1-3).

Four points of similarity between the priesthood of Melchizedek and the priesthood of Christ.

**1 Both Melchizedek And Christ Were Priest—Kings.**

**2 Both Melchizedek And Christ Are Kings of Righteousness And Peace.** “Melchizedek” means “king of righteousness.” And he was also called king of Salem, which means, “king of peace.” Jesus is a king of righteousness and peace.

**3 Both Melchizedek And Christ Are Priest, Forever!**

**4 Both Melchizedek And Christ Are Greater Than Abraham.** As evidenced by to things that happened.

First, Abram gave Melchizedek a tithe. The lesser always pays tithes to the superior.

Second, Melchizedek blesses Abram. The greater blesses the lesser.

*What A Balanced Savior!* As Priest, Jesus is able to aid those who come to Him for mercy and grace. As King He leads those to listen by the authority of His voice. Jesus understands of our weaknesses, and requires allegiance to His will. When we find help for our weaknesses in His Priesthood, and obey the commands of His Kingdom two things will result:


Peace from His forgiveness! – His Priestly work


Righteousness from His guidance! – His Kingly work


Those who recognize Jesus' position as the King-Priest will be characterized by how they Give Him their first and best, and by a blessedness that results from His blessing in their lives.

## The Lord Will Provide

Abraham climbed the Mount Everest of faith when he walked up Mount Moriah's slope to offer his son as a sacrifice. His actions also became a potent representation of what God would do for a lot humanity on the cross. In Abraham's example we allowed to think about how it must have felt for a loving God to give His Son in our place. In Isaac's example we are caused shutter when we think what kind of love caused Jesus to willingly accept the wrath of God's knife. In caught ram in the thicket we see the joy of our substitute being provided.

 **Abraham Is A Type Of The Father.** God said to Abraham, *"You have not withheld from Me your son, your only son."* (Gen. 22:12; See Romans 8:32).

 **Isaac Is A Type Of Servant.** Abraham *"bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar"* (Gen. 22:9; See Isaiah 53:7-10).

 **Ram Is A Type Of Substitute.** The ram was offered as, *"a burnt offering instead of his son"* (Gen. 22:13; See 2 Cor 5:21).



Is this where Abraham sees and longs for the coming day of Christ? Jesus said, <sup>56</sup>*"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."* (John 8:56).

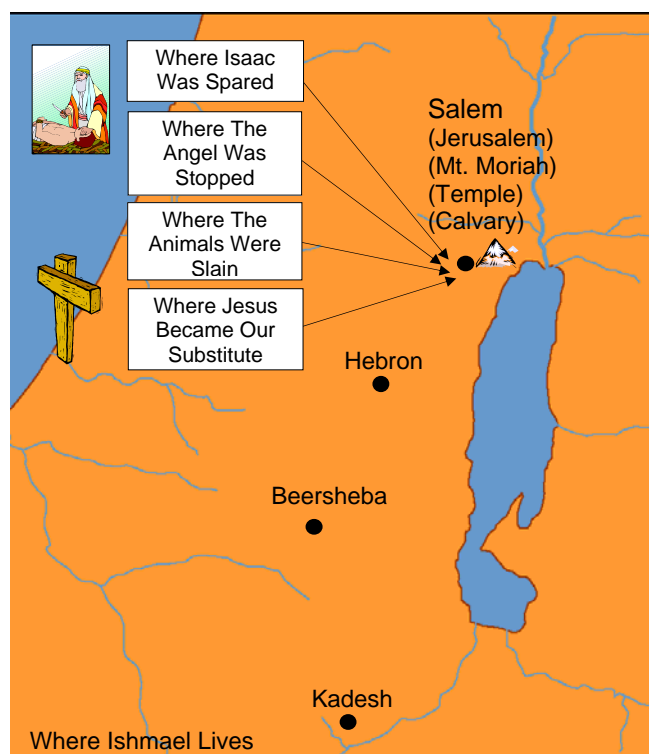


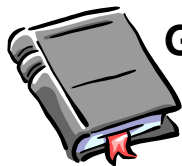
### A Special Event & Special Place:

God had Abraham travel some distance to get to this mountain, because not only would this be a significant event, but it would also be a significant event. This mountain would be tied closely to God's plan to provide a substitute for all people.

### **Four Events Of Salvation At This Place**

Abraham Offers Isaac	The Lord provided a substitute sacrifice	Gen. 22:2
David prays for forgiveness	The Lord stopped the angel from killing	2 Sam. 24:18-25
Sacrifices in the Solomon's Temple	The Lord allowed a temporary substitute for sin	2 Chron. 3:1
Jesus dies on the cross	The Lord provided a lasting substitute for sin	Matt. 27:33





# Genesis

Part 3 – Genesis 32 - 50 (Information Sheet)

An overview of the final days of Jacob's life, and the grand story of Joseph.

## Storing Up Treasures:

Discovering The Rich Teaching Of Scripture



### What Do You See In The Old Testament?

Many Christians avoid the Old Testament, thinking that it has no message for them or that it is too difficult to understand. But without it one can hardly understand the message of the New Testament, because practically every book in the Old Testament is quoted or referred to in the New Testament writings. Consider the fourfold purpose of the Old Testament writings:



**F**oundation. We would have no information concerning the origin of the universe, the origin of man, the beginnings of sin, the birth of the Hebrew nation, or the purposes of God for the world, were it not for the Old Testament record. Every New Testament doctrine can be traced back to Old Testament history. An understanding of the Old Testament record is necessary if we are to interpret the New Testament correctly.



**P**reparation. The Old Testament reveals God's preparation for the coming of His Son into the world. In Genesis we see our sin and the need for a Savior and the promise that He will come through the woman, through the Jewish nation, and through the tribe of Judah. The rest of the Old Testament amplifies these basic facts. Genesis 3:15 indicates that there are two "seeds" in conflict in the world, the seed of Satan and the seed of Christ, and you will see this conflict from Genesis 4 onward. (See Romans 7:7 & Galatians 3:19-25)



**I**llustration. The Old Testament is God's picture gallery, in which He often shows His truth in types and symbols. Each NT doctrine has an Old Testament illustration. As you study the Old Testament, be sure to use the light of the New Testament to dispel the shadows (Colossians 1:17), and be sure to look for the Person and work of Christ.



**D**emonstration. The Old Testament is a practical book, showing the failures and successes of the people of God. We see God demonstrating His power in the lives of people, but we also see what sin and unbelief will do to people. God recorded these sins and successes for our benefit (1 Corinthians 10:11). As we see men like Abraham, Moses, and David overcoming their problems by faith, we have encouragement and hope (Romans 15:4). The prayers of the Psalms and the practical counsels of Proverbs can help us in our daily lives if we will "trust and obey."

Griffith-Thomas in his book *Methods of Bible Study* suggests that the Old Testament is a book of: (1) unfulfilled prophecies, (2) unexplained ceremonies, and (3) unsatisfied longings. In the New Testament we have the fulfillment of these prophecies, the explanation of these ceremonies, and the satisfying of these longings; and, of course, all of this was accomplished through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

*With modification from Wiersbe's expository outlines on the Old Testament*

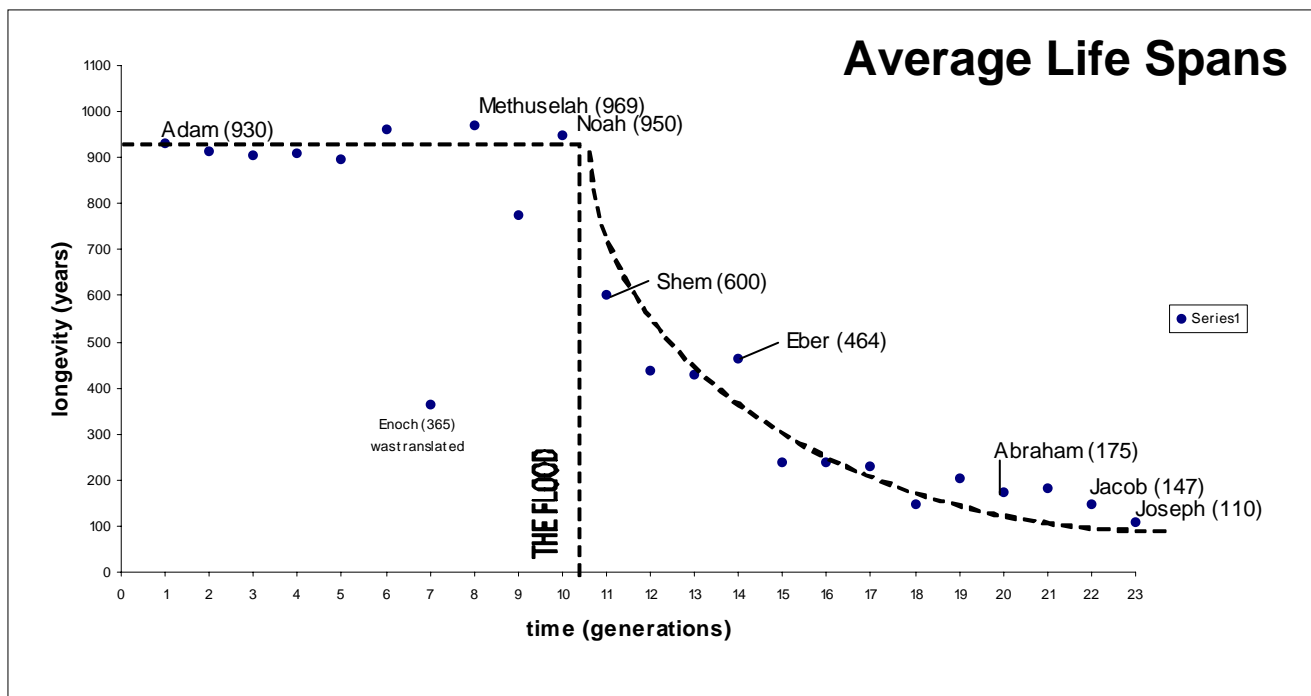
## How Old Are You?

Life expectancy & EVENTS	Name	Age when son born	Age at death	Scripture
	Adam	130	930	Gen 5:3-5
<b>THE FALL</b>				Gen 3; 4:8,11-12
<b>Between 900 &amp; 1000 years</b>				
	Seth	105	912	Gen 5:3-8
	Enosh	90	905	Gen 5:6-10
	Kenan	70	910	Gen 5:9-14
	Mahalaleel	65	895	Gen 5:12-17
	Jared	162	962	Gen 5:14-20
	Enoch	65	365	Gen 5:18-24
	Methuselah	187	969	Gen 5:22-27
	Lamech	182	777	Gen 5:26-31
	Noah	502	950	Gen 5:29-32; 9:28-29
	Shem	100	600	Gen 5:32; 11:10-11
<b>FLOOD STARTS</b>				Gen 7:6
<b>About 440 years</b>	Arphaxad	35	438	Gen 11:10-13
	Salah	30	430	Gen 11:12-15
	Eber	34	464	Gen 11:14-17
<b>About 235 years</b>	Peleg	30	239	Gen 11:16-19
<b>DIVISION OF EARTH:</b>				Gen 10:25
	Reu	32	239	Gen 11:18-21
	Serug	30	230	Gen 11:20-23
<b>Falls unevenly from 235 to 135 years</b>				
	Nahor	29	148	Gen 11:22-25
	Terah	130	205	Gen 11:24-27,32
	Abraham	100	175	Gen 17:25; 21:25; 25:7-8
<b>CALL OF ABRAHAM:</b>		Abraham 75		Gen 12:4
	Sarah	90	127	Gen 17:17;23:1-2
	Ishmael	-	137	Gen 17:25; 25:17
	Isaac	60	180	Gen 21:5; 25:26; 35:28
<b>About 135 years</b>	Jacob	91	147	Gen 25:26; Gen 47:28
	Joseph		110	Gen 50:26.
	Levi		137	Ex 6:16
	Kohath		133	Ex 6:18
<b>CHILDREN OF ISRAEL MOVE TO EGYPT</b>				
	Amram		137	Ex 6:20
<b>After Exodus. Falls from 135 to 70-80 years</b>				
	Moses		120	Deut 34:7
	Aaron		123	Ex 7:7. Num 33:39
	Joshua		110	Josh 24:29
	Caleb		>85	Josh 14:7,10

The Bible describes a large, systematic, and irreversible, reduction in human life expectancy during the period between the Fall and the time of the Exodus. It is often suggested that after the Flood the environmental conditions of the earth changed, or the longevity of life could simply be the result of God's will.

After Israel entered the Promised Land, however, normal human life expectancy did not change further, but became stable at about 70 to 80 years, just as it is today. By Moses' time he could write this in Psalm 90,

"The length of our days is seventy years— or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.  
<sup>11</sup>Who knows the power of your anger?  
 For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. <sup>12</sup>Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:10-12).



## Jacob – The Transformed

Jacob was certainly not a highly spiritual man most of his life. He lives up to his name as a supplanter (meaning of Jacob). God did not work through this man because he was perfect, but simply because he was chosen. Jacob's life can be divided into four sections according to the place where he lived.

Notice that during the years he ran away from God he always had an antagonist to afflict his life. Perhaps these antagonist were divinely placed to bring Jacob to godly sorrow, or perhaps they were just to result of his own sinful choices. But when Jacob began to listen to God and follow God, God blessed him to live out his days in peace.

It is also interesting to noticed that even though Jacob was so often unfaithful to God, God continued to give him great gains. God was going to fulfill His purposes through Jacob regardless of his response, our salvation was at stake.

<b>Life Of Jacob</b> <i>"The Supplanter &amp; The Saint"</i>			
<b>IN BEERSHEBA</b> <i>Genesis 25:19–28:9</i>	<b>IN PADDAN ARAM</b> <i>Genesis 28:10–31:55</i>	<b>IN CANAAN</b> <i>Genesis 32:1–45:28</i>	<b>IN GOSHEN</b> <i>Genesis 46:1–49:33</i>
With his Parents	With his In-laws	With his Sons	With his Grandsons
Birth to 77 (77 Yrs.)	Age 77–97 (20 Yrs.)	Age 97–130 (33 Yrs.)	Age 130–147 (17 Yrs.)
<b>Antagonist:</b> Esau	<b>Antagonist:</b> Laban	<b>Antagonist:</b> Sons	No Antagonism
<b>Gains:</b> Birthright & Blessing	<b>Gains:</b> Wives and Wealth	<b>Gains:</b> Wives and Children	<b>Gains:</b> Family
Acquiring Blessing	Accumulating Wealth	Suffering Adversity	Experiencing Tranquility

**Jacob's Final Act Of Faith.** A life rather short on acts of faith, finished with a great act of faith. Before he died Jacob instructed his sons that he was to be buried in Canaan. By doing this Jacob was showing his faith in God's promise to give his descendants that land. "29 Then he gave them these instructions: "I am about to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my fathers ... in Canaan," (Genesis 49:29-30). And by doing so became a great role model for his family, because Joseph gave similar instructions before he died, "And Joseph made the sons of Israel swear an oath and said, "God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place."" (Genesis 50:25).

### Jacob's Children

*(The children Of Israel in order)*

Wife	Leah	Bilhah <small>(Rachel's handmaid)</small>	Zilpah <small>(Leah's handmaid)</small>	Rachel
	1. Reuben			
	2. Simeon			
	3. Levi			
	4. Judah			
		5. Dan		
		6. Naphtali		
			7. Gad	
			8. Asher	
	9. Issachar			
	10. Zebulun			
				11. Joseph
				12. Benjamin
Daughter	Dinah			

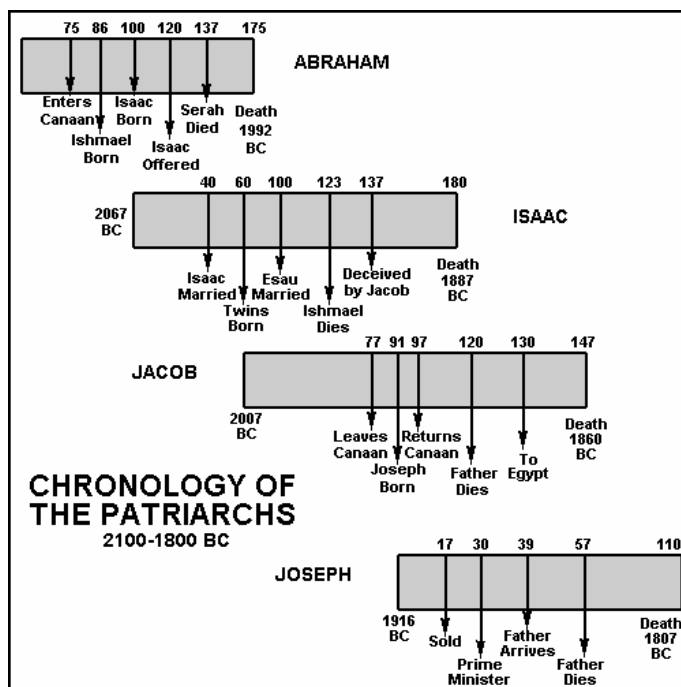
## The Days Of Joseph's Life

The following chart is a helpful analysis of Joseph's life. Of special note is how long he was in prison, 11 years. Faithfulness is often tried in the passage of time. Another special note is how young he is when in Potiphar's house. He's in his late teens and yet making difficult choices for God!

<b>Joseph In Egypt</b> <i>Genesis 39-50</i>				
<b>SERVANT</b> <i>39:1-19</i>	<b>PRISON</b> <i>39:20 – 40:23</i>	<b>PLENTY</b> <i>41:1-52</i>	<b>FAMINE</b> <i>41:53 – 47:26</i>	<b>SOJOURN</b> <i>47:27 – 50:26</i>
Potiphar's House	Meets The Butler And The Baker	Two Children Born	Bothers, Benjamin Arrive	Goshen
Age 17 – 19 <b>(2+ Years)</b>	Age 19 – 30 <b>(11 Years)</b>	Age 30 – 37 <b>(7 Years)</b>	Age 37 – 44 <b>(7 Years)</b>	Age 44 – 110 <b>(70 years)</b>
1901 – 1898 BC	1898 – 1887 BC	1887 – 1880 BC	1880 – 1873 BC	1873 – 1807 BC
<b>Steward</b>	<b>Dream Interpreter</b>	<b>PRIME MINISTER</b>		

See James Smith, "The Pentateuch."

A chart from James E. Smith puts the lives of the patriarchs together with the significant events in their lives.



## Successful Parallels Between A Servant & A Prisoner

<h3 style="margin: 0;"><i>Joseph's Success!</i></h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>How God Gave Joseph Success As A Servant &amp; A Prisoner</i></p>		
<b>God Does Not Forsake Him</b>	“ <i>The Lord was with Joseph</i> ” (Genesis 39:2).	“But while Joseph was there in the prison, <sup>21</sup> <i>the Lord was with him.</i> ” (Genesis 39:20-21).
<b>Joseph Had A Model Character</b>	“Joseph found <i>favor</i> in his eyes and became his attendant.” (Genesis 39:4).	“the Lord ...granted him <i>favor</i> in the eyes of the prison warden.” (Genesis 39:21).
<b>Joseph Was Responsible</b>	“Potiphar put him <i>in charge</i> of his household, and he entrusted to his care <i>everything</i> he owned.” (Genesis 39:4).	“The warden put Joseph <i>in charge</i> of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for <i>all</i> that was done there.” (Genesis 39:22).
<b>Joseph Was Trustworthy</b>	“with Joseph in charge, he <i>did not concern himself</i> with anything except the food he ate.” (Genesis 39:6).	“ <i>The warden paid no attention</i> to anything under Joseph’s care” (Genesis 39:23).
<b>Joseph Served A Powerful God</b>	Potiphar trusted Joseph because he saw that “the Lord was with him and that <i>the Lord gave him success</i> in everything he did,” (Genesis 39:3).	The prison warden trusted Joseph because he too saw that “ <i>the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success</i> in whatever he did.” (Genesis 39:23).

The parallels in these two experiences are very clear.

- 1
 First, when Joseph was sold by his brothers into Egyptian slavery, God did not forsake him. Later when Potiphar had him thrown in prison, the Lord stayed by his side. God never forgot Joseph nor did He leave him.
- 2
 Second, when Joseph began as Potiphar’s slave, by his good character and God’s gracious work, he found special favor in his master’s eyes. God also did this for Joseph in prison. He was noticed by both men as a model slave and model prisoner.
- 3
 Third, Joseph was promoted to a high level of responsibility. Before Joseph ever ruled as second in command in Egypt, he held levels of responsibility in a home and a prison. God was preparing Joseph to be a leader, and Joseph showed himself to be responsible for whatever needed to be done.
- 4
 Fourth Joseph was trustworthy. Both Potiphar and the warden turned everything over to Joseph and did not worry about a thing. They didn’t have to come check up on him to see if he was doing his job. They didn’t worry that he would abuse his position for personal gain. They knew he would not let them down.
- 5
 Fifth, both men, Potiphar and the warden so a close relationship between Joseph’s exemplary character and work ethic, and the God he worshiped. There was a relationship between Joseph’s work and his faith.

# Seeing The Savior

Hearing The Message Of The Bible



## Joseph – The Foreshadow Of The Savior

Joseph's life can be divided into three main periods. We see him first as *the beloved son*, supremely loved in the eyes of his father. Next we see him as *the rejected sufferer*, hated by his brethren. And finally, he is *the exalted savior*, lifted high in his kingly splendor and authority. In this way, Joseph becomes the most complete single type of Christ anywhere in the Bible. You don't have to wait till Matthew to see Jesus. His face is seen in the righteous acts of His people, and through His providential control of history. Get to know Joseph and you'll know Jesus better!



### A Beloved Son

#### Supreme in the love of the father.

**Joseph** – “Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons” (Genesis 37:3).

**Jesus** – “And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17). “For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,” (Colossians 1:13).

#### Supreme in the honor of the father.

**Joseph** – “he made a richly ornamented robe for him.” (Genesis 37:3). The robe communicated distinction and heirship.

**Jesus** – “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.” (John 1:14, 18).

#### Supreme in God's purposes.

**Joseph** – Joseph's dreams were prophetic, and his life was the fulfillment of those divine prophecies, although it was inconceivable that a young child of a nomadic, shepherding family could raise to the level of 2<sup>nd</sup> in command of the greatest nation on earth. (Genesis 37:5-11)

**Jesus** – Christ also was the object of the prophetic word of God, and His life fulfilled every prophecy completely. The fulfillment of Jesus' prophecies are even more remarkable than Joseph given the sheer number He fulfilled (hundreds), the number of years over which the prophecies span (thousands), and the specific nature of the prophecies given (born of a virgin, genealogies, timing, etc). (Ephesians 1:9-10)

## Sent By The Father To Their Brethren.

**Joseph** – “Come, I am going to send you to them.” (Genesis 37:13-14).

**Jesus** – “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,” (Luke 4:18). “<sup>1</sup>In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.” (Hebrews 1:1-2). “He came to his own” (John 1:11).

## Regarded Themselves As Shepherds

**Joseph** – “Joseph, was tending the flocks” (Genesis 37:2).

**Jesus** – “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (John 10:11).

## Taken To Egypt

**Joseph** – “his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him ... to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.” (Genesis 37:28).

**Jesus** – “So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup>where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”” (Matthew 2:14-15).

## Both Around Thirty At the Beginning Of Their Ministry

**Joseph** – “Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt.” (Genesis 41:46).

**Jesus** – “<sup>23</sup>Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph.” (Luke 3:23).



## The Rejected Sufferer

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### Both Were Hated.

**Joseph** – Joseph was hated by his brothers. “they hated him...” (Genesis 37:4,5,8).

**Jesus** – Jesus also was hated, by His special people, “He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.” (John 1:11). By His own family, “For even his own brothers did not believe in him.” (John 7:5). Without a cause, “But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: ‘They hated me without reason.’” (John 15:25).

### Both Were Sold

**Joseph** – Joseph was sold by his brothers for 20 pieces of silver to Gentiles (Genesis 37:27-28) The price of a slave.

**Jesus** – Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver and delivered to the Gentiles (Matthew 27:9). Satan hired Judas for the price of a slave to betray his Lord.

## **Both Were Stripped Of His Coat**

**Joseph** – In an act of brazen disgrace they stripped Joseph of his dignity. “So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe—the richly ornamented robe he was wearing—” (Genesis 37:23).

**Jesus** – In an act of mocking disgrace they stripped Jesus of his dignity. In His nakedness He shared with us in the consequences of our sins. The first consequence Adam and Eve realized because of sin was, “they saw their nakedness.” Jesus knew that shame. “They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him,” (Matthew 27:28).

## **Both Suffered Greatly**

**Joseph** – Joseph’s early life is characterized by suffering. He suffered as a slave in the market, then he suffered under the temptation of sin (Genesis 39:7-12), then in the confines of prison languishing for 11 years (Genesis 39:20). Not to mention the betrayal, the lies, the scared reputation.

**Jesus** – Isaiah saw that Jesus would suffer so greatly he called Him, “The Suffering Servant.” He too suffered betrayal, lies, the pains of temptation like none ever before because He was without sin (Hebrews 4:15), culminating in the sufferings of the cross, bearing our sins in His body (1 Peter 2:24). He was a “Man of Sorrows” (Isaiah 53:3).

## **Both Were Considered Dead**

**Joseph** – About twenty years elapsed between the selling of Joseph and the reunion with his father, during that time he was considered dead. When found Jacob felt as if he had received his son back from the dead, a picture of the resurrection.

**Jesus** – Jesus actually suffered death for our sakes. However, by the power of God He too was restored to us alive. (2 Corinthians 5:15)

## **Both Endured Temptation**

**Joseph** – We are not told much, if any about the sins of Joseph. This is in sharp contrast to the other patriarchs who’s sin is recorded in almost every story. However, in Joseph we see a man who faced temptation day after day in the house of Potiphar, yet, “day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.” (Genesis 39:10). His purity is a type of Christ.

**Jesus** – Jesus was sinless in regard to temptation, “<sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.” (Hebrews 4:15).

## **Both Were Falsely Accused**

**Joseph** – By Potiphar’s wife, “<sup>16</sup>She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home. <sup>17</sup>Then she told him this story: “That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. <sup>18</sup>But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”” (Genesis 39:16-18).

**Jesus** – By the religious authorities, “<sup>59</sup>The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. <sup>60</sup>But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward” (Matthew 26:59,60).

## **Both Plotted Against By Their Brethren**

**Joseph** – Joseph’s brothers plotted to kill him out of jealousy, because he was loved by another. They said, “Come now, let’s kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him.”” (Genesis 37:20).

**Jesus** – They plotted Jesus’ death because they were jealous of Him, they wanted the admiration for themselves that others were giving to Him. “So from that day on they plotted to take his life.” (John 11:53).



## **The Exalted Savior**

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### **Exalted As The Wisdom And Power of God For Salvation**

**Joseph** – Through his God given wisdom Joseph devised a plan to save the world from famine. He had the power to carry it out. “Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you.” (Genesis 41:39). He becomes the world’s bread supplier. “And all the countries came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the world.” (Genesis 41:57). “famine in all the world,” perhaps a picture of the pandemic consequences of sin.

**Jesus** – God’s plan of saving men from their sin is the result of a divine wisdom that excels all human understanding. “<sup>21</sup>For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ...we preach Christ crucified... to those whom God has called Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:21-24). He is the bread of life (John 6)

## **Exalted To The Right Hand Of The Throne**

**Joseph** – Joseph was given the place of all authority to carry out His mission. All the land had to be subject to him. “You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.”” (Genesis 41:40).

**Jesus** – Jesus has “all authority in heaven and on earth” (Matthew 28:18). He has been exalted to the right hand of the father to dispense saving grace to all those who obediently come to Him in faith. “God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel.” (Acts 5:31). “Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.” (Romans 8:34).

## **Exalted Among His Own Brethren**

**Joseph** – Joseph’s dream was that his brothers would bow down to him, they did (Genesis 37:1-10). He revealed himself to them after they had shown sorrow and repentance over their sin (Genesis 42:21-24). In addition, Joseph was highly exalted among all after his sufferings, “Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt.”” (Genesis 41:41).

**Jesus** – Although Jesus came to His own, and they did not receive Him, on the day of Pentecost, in Acts 2, a multitude believed as was humbled in baptized in His name. Jesus forgave their sins after they had shown sorrow and repentance of their sin (Acts 2:38). Jesus also, exalted in all the earth after His sufferings, “Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:9-11).

## **Both Take A Gentile Wife**

**Joseph** – Joseph is given a Gentile bride, not true of any of the other patriarchs of promise. “Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, to be his wife.” (Genesis 41:45).

**Jesus** – The bride of Christ, the church, is gathered from all the nations of the earth. “This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.” (Ephesians 3:6; 5:22-33).

## **Both Consummate Wonderful Divine Plans**

**Joseph** – Joseph was aware that his sufferings was according to God’s will to accomplish His divine plans. “And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.” (Genesis 45:5-9). “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.” (Genesis 50:20).

**Jesus** – Jesus is the author and finisher of God’s plan of salvation (Ephesians 1:9-10; Hebrews 12:1-3)

## **Both Placed With Two Prisoners, One Saved, One Lost**

**Joseph** – Joseph was put in prison with Pharaoh’s cupbearer and baker. One, the cupbearer was saved from the prison and restored to his mater’s service. The baker, however, was not restored but hanged (Genesis 40).

**Jesus** – Jesus was crucified between two prisoners. One confessed his faith in Christ and was saved and lived again with his Lord in Paradise, the other died with no hope (Luke 23:32).

## **Both Were Respected By Their Jailers**

**Joseph** – Joseph through God’s providence and his character gained favor in the eyes of the prison keeper. “the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.” (Genesis 39:21).

**Jesus** – Due to the righteousness of Jesus character, and the miraculous works that God worked while He was on the cross, Jesus’ keeper also came to deeply respect Him. “<sup>39</sup>And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!”” (Mark 15:39). “<sup>47</sup>The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.”” (Luke 23:47).

## **Both Were Visited And Honored By All The Nations**

**Joseph** – “And all the countries came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the world.” (Genesis 41:57).

**Jesus** – “In the last days the mountain of the Lord’s temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.” The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” (Isaiah 2:2-3). “he says: “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.”” (Isaiah 49:6).

### **The Scepter In Judah**



In Genesis 49 Jacob blesses his children and grandchildren. These blessings affect many nations and many events in the Bible, and maybe even still today. Among these many prophecies is a blessing Jacob gives to Judah,

<sup>8</sup>“Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons will bow down to you. <sup>9</sup>You are a lion’s cub, O Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness—who dares to rouse him? <sup>10</sup>The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his. <sup>11</sup>He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch; he will wash his garments in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes. <sup>12</sup>His eyes will be darker than wine, his teeth whiter than milk.” (Genesis 49:8-12).

This is a Messianic prophecy pointing us to Christ. It narrows down even further the lineage through which Christ would come, making his identity that much more certain. Through the tribe of Judah came the kings of Israel, and finally and fully came the King of kings, Jesus.