



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Scripture: Genesis 1:1; 15:6

TITLE: Genesis – The Whole Story

What is the Bible all about? Is it a book of myths? Is it a book of history? What are the different books of the Bible? Does each book come together to tell one story, or are they all independent?

Over the next two-and-a-half months, we will answer these questions and more. Starting today, we are going to learn “the main thing.” We want to look at each book of the Bible in just 5 minutes a day. Each day we will discover the main thing by looking at the contents of each book.

As Sammy Hagar of Van Halen sang, “I can’t drive 55.” Well, the same is true for us as we discover the main thing in each of the 66 books of the Bible. So buckle up. Put on your learning shades. And let’s enjoy the ride.

Any worldview must answer four questions: Where do we come from? This is a question of origin. Where are we going? This is a question of destiny. Why are we here? This is a question of purpose. How should we live? This is a question of morality.

The Bible, as a whole, answers these four questions with clarity, rationality, and—as I like to make up words—“definity.” But did you know that the book of Genesis answers these four questions right out of the gate? It does, and in just the first few chapters. That’s why I refer to it as “the whole story.”

The book of Genesis is one of five books called the Pentateuch. These first five books of the Bible were written by Moses. The first 11 chapters of Genesis span a timeline of more than 2,000 years. The remaining 38 chapters cover under 3 years. Moses penned this and the other four books around 1450-1400 B.C.

We meet some of the most iconic Biblical characters: God, Adam and Eve, Satan, Noah, Abraham, Jacob, and Joseph. We read about some of the most beloved stories in all of the Bible. We read about creation, Noah’s ark and the flood, the life of Abraham and Sarah, the wrestling match between Jacob and God, and the ultimate story of trial and triumph through the life of Joseph.

The book of Genesis means “beginnings.” In the first chapter, we see the creation of the universe, the planets, light and darkness, animals, plants, the ocean, and humanity. But not God. Genesis 1:1 says, “In the beginning God.” Before time and space existed, God existed. God has no creation and no end. God is the eternal creator and sustainer of everything.

We see this on page one and in the very first sentence. In just the first 3 chapters, we meet God, see the creation of the universe and mankind, the fall of mankind, the promise of a savior to redeem mankind, and the path forward in a new and fallen world.

There are so many places to dig in, but let's zoom into God's plan of salvation through His son Jesus Christ. Yes, this is referenced in the book of Genesis. In Genesis 3:15 (CSB), God says that "He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." This is a reference to the crucifixion of Christ and the defeat of sin. But the pathway to salvation is not religion. The pathway to peace with God is not works. It's faith in the saving one. Genesis 15:6 says, "Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness." Salvation came by faith and not by works. And this savior would come years later through the seed of Abraham, who believed.

Genesis is the whole story. It is a book of origin, destiny, purpose, and morality. It is the foundation for the rest of the Bible. If you deny and remove Genesis 1-11, you are already lost.

The book of Genesis is the whole story – a true story. So let's believe and embrace it.

So here's my challenge for you today: Wrestle and tap out. Jacob wrestled God in Genesis 32. We all need to wrestle with God's Word, but we need to then tap out to its authority. So, where are you wrestling today? Is it with creation? Is it with the fall of mankind? Is it with the origin and reality of absolute morality? Is it in the stories Genesis contains? Put it in the comments below so we can wrestle together. And then, let's tap out to the authority of God and His Word.

When we believe and embrace God's Word, starting with Genesis, we will win the day.