

Lesson 1: Creation of Universe and Man (Gen. 1-2)

Key Verse: “‘And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.” (Gen. 1:26)

Introduction: For His own sovereign purposes God created the universe including the Earth, its life forms, and mankind. Mankind was created in the image and likeness of God to fellowship with Him and to rule over God’s creatures.

I. Creation Had a Setting (1:1-2)

- A. The creative time was “In the beginning”
- B. The creative cause was the Triune God
- C. The creative acts were supernatural
- D. Creation had a pattern

II. Creation Had a Sequence (1:3-2:3)

- A. Day One: Light (1:3-5)
- B. Day Two: Firmament (1:6-8)
- C. Day Three: Dry land and vegetation (1:9-13)
- D. Day Four: Celestial lights come into view (1:14-19)
- E. Day Five: Life from the sea (1:20-23)
- F. Day Six: Life from the land (1:24-31)
- G. Day Seven: Rest (2:1-3)

III. Creation Had Seven First Things (2:1-25)

- A. The first Sabbath (2:1-3)
- B. The first vegetation (2:4-6)
- C. The first man (2:7)
- E. The first garden (2:8-14)
- F. The first covenant (2:15-17)
- G. The first woman (2:18-22)
- H. The first marriage (2:22-25)

Conclusion: Believers should learn to worship and fellowship with the LORD and to fulfill God’s purposes in their lives.

Lesson 2: The Fall into Sin and Its Consequences (Gen. 3-4)

Key Verse: “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; and it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” (Gen. 3:15)

Introduction: For His own sovereign purposes God permitted Adam and Eve to be tempted to sin; and upon their fall, He initiated the plan of redemption. Substitutionary sacrifices were instituted; the Messianic promise was given, and the Messianic line was established. However, sin became so severe that God pronounced the judgment of the Flood, providing for the deliverance of only Noah and his family.

I. Mankind Was Tempted and Fell into Sin (3:1-24)

- A. Satan tempted Eve (3:1-6)
 - 1. The subtle serpent was the tempter (1)
 - 2. The tempter used doubt and denial of God’s word (1-4)
 - 3. Eve yielded to lust and pride (5-6)
- B. Man fell into sin (3:6-7)
 - 1. Man was willfully disobedient (6)
 - 2. Their conscience was awakened to sin (7)
 - 3. They attempted to cover their shame (7)
- C. God responded with judgment and grace (3:8-24)
 - 1. God sought Adam in grace (8-9)
 - 2. Adam and Eve tried to justify themselves (10-13)
 - 3. God pronounced a gracious curse (14-20)
 - 4. God provided a gracious covering (21)
 - 5. God promulgated a gracious expulsion (22-24)

II. Adam’s Son Had a Fallen Nature (4:1-26)

- A. Adam had two sons: Cain and Abel (4:1-2)
- B. Adam’s sons offered sacrifices to God (4:3-7)
 - 1. Abel’s blood sacrifice was acceptable (4)
 - 2. Cain’s bloodless sacrifice was unacceptable (3, 5)
 - 3. God corrected Cain for the deficiency (6-7)
- C. Cain killed his brother (4:8)
- D. God judged Cain for murder (4:9-15)
- E. Cain’s descendants were worldly (4:16-24)
 - 1. Enoch was a city builder
 - 2. Lamech was a bigamist and boastful self-avenger
 - 3. Jabel was a cattleman
 - 4. Jubal was a musician
 - 5. Tubal-cain was a metallurgist
- F. Adam’s new descendants were spiritual (4:25-26)
 - 1. Seth was appointed as another “seed” (25)
 - 2. Enosh instituted calling on the LORD (26)

Conclusion: Sin had devastating consequences, resulting in the depraved nature of all men, but God graciously promised redemption through the Seed of the woman.

Lesson 3: Man’s Failure Under Conscience (Gen. 5-6)

Key Verse: “And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.” (Gen. 6:13)

Introduction: The nature of mankind was so depraved that morality degraded to the verge of extinction, so God judged all living creatures to extinction by a flood. Only one godly family would survive together with a mere remnant of animals.

I. A Godly Line Descended Through Adam’s Son Seth (5:1-32)

A. Adam’s 930 years summarized (5:1-5)

B. Adam’s genealogy from Seth to Jared (5:6-20)

1. Seth 912 years (6-8)
2. Enosh. 905 years (9-11)
3. Cainan 910 years (12-14)
4. Mahalaleel 895 years (15-17)
5. Jared 962 years (18-20)

C. Adam’s genealogy from Enoch to Noah (5:21-32)

1. Enoch 365 years: walked with God (21-24)
2. Methuselah 969 years: prophetic name (25-27)
3. Lamech 777 years: expected comfort (28-31)
4. Noah 950 years: perfect, walked with God (29, 32)

II. Judgment Pronounced on Moral Degradation (6:1-22)

A. Wickedness increased among men (6:1-7)

1. Moral separation broke down (1-4)
 Three views:
 - a. Fallen angels and human women
 - b. Despotic polygamous kings
 - c. Apostate Sethites and Cainites
2. God warned of coming judgment (3)
3. God pronounced judgment of the flood (4-7)

B. Noah prepared the ark for safety (6:8-22)

1. Noah’s family introduced (8-10)
2. God announced judgment to come (11-13)
3. God described the ark’s design (14-16)
4. All flesh was to perish in a flood (17)
5. Only Noah, his family, and an animal remnant would survive (18-21)
6. Noah build the ark (22)

Conclusion: Human nature became so depraved through Adam’s sin that the only hope of salvation lies in the grace of God. Wise men receive God’s redemption through Jesus Christ.

Lesson 5: Man's Failure Under Human Government (Gen. 9-10)

Key Verse: “And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.” (Gen. 9:11)

Introduction: After the flood God made a covenant with mankind, establishing human government and promising never to destroy all flesh again by a flood. However, sin quickly manifested itself again, bringing shame and a curse.

I. Human Government Was Established Through Noah (Gen. 9)

A. God made a covenant with Noah (9:1-17)

1. Regarding the earth: fill it (1)
2. Regarding the animals: fear and food (2-4)
 - a. The animals would fear man (2)
 - b. The animals would be food for man (3)
 - c. Blood was not to be eaten (4)
3. Regarding human government: Penal authority (5-6)
 - a. Capital punishment for murder
 - b. Applies for man and beast
4. Regarding population: be fruitful (7)
5. Regarding the future: no more flood destruction (8-17)
 - a. The promise was given (8-11)
 - b. The rainbow was the covenant sign (12-17)

B. Noah was shamed and he blessed his sons (9:18-29)

1. Noah became drunk and naked (18-21)
2. Ham sinned against his father (22-23)
3. Canaan was cursed (24-25)
4. Shem and Japheth were blessed (26-27)
5. Noah survived the flood by 350 years (28-29)

II. The Nations Descended From Noah (10:1-32)

- A. European Gentiles descended from Japheth, the eldest (10:1-5, 21)
- B. The Hamathites descended from Ham, the youngest (10:6-20, 9:24)
(Note: Cush and Nimrod originators of idolatry)
- C. The Semites descended from Shem: the godly line (10:21-32)
(Note: Eber the forefather of the Hebrews)

Conclusion: The depravity of human nature is evident in the very best, leaving salvation by merit an impossibility.

Lesson 6: The Judgment of Babel and Abram's Call (Gen. 11-12)

Key Verses: “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. (Gen. 12:1-3)

Introduction: After man's failure under human government, God called out a man to become the forefather of a covenant nation. This man, Abram, was given covenant promises to which he responded in faith and obedience.

I. The Nations Were Dispersed for Disobedience (11:1-32)

A. The Nations were judged at Babel (11:1-9)

1. Man's ecumenical desires disobeyed God (1-4)
 - a. They had one language
 - b. They were in one place
 - c. They wanted one religion: the tower and Nimrod's idolatry
 - d. They wanted fame
 - e. They wanted unity not dispersion
2. God judged the nations by dispersion (5-9)
 - a. The languages were confused
 - b. The nations were scattered
 - c. The earth was divided (10:25)

B. God prepared Abram (11:10-32)

1. Abram was a descendant of Shem (10:26)
2. Abram's family moved to Haran (27-32)

II. God Called Abram with a Covenant (12:1-20)

A. God made a covenant with Abram (12:1-20)

1. Abram was separated from country, kindred, family
2. God promised a land and blessing

B. Abram sojourned in the land of Canaan (12:4-20)

1. He sojourned at Shechem (4-7)
2. He sojourned at Bethel (8)
3. He sojourned in Egypt (9-20)

Conclusion: Christians, like Abram, should believe and obey God's word. This leads to blessing and fellowship with God.

Lesson 7: The Blessing of Spiritual Separation (Gen. 13-14)

Key Verses: “And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren. Is not the whole land before the? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.” (Gen. 13:8-9)

Introduction: God progressively separated Abram from earthly ties in order to draw him closer to Himself. Abram was separated from his worldly nephew Lot so that Abram could learn that God gives him lands and wealth.

I. Abram Separated From His Nephew Lot (13:5-18)

- A. They had strife over possessions (13:5-7)
- B. Abram suggested separation (13:8-9)
- C. Lot chose the worldly way of Sodom (13:10-13)
- D. Abram was rewarded with spiritual blessings (13:14-18)
 - 1. The LORD gave Abram all the land (14-15, 17)
 - 2. Abram’s descendants would be innumerable (16)
 - 3. Abram built an altar and worshipped (18)

II. Abram Delivered Lot from Captivity (14:1-24)

- A. Lot was captured by his enemies (14:1-12)
 - 1. An enemy confederacy conquered Sodom (1-2)
 - 2. Sodom was in servitude 12 years (3-4)
 - 3. Their rebellion was challenged by the enemy (5-10)
 - 4. The confederates took Lot and Sodom captive (11-12)
- B. Abram rescued Lot and his fellow captives (14:13-16)
 - 1. Abram enlisted local confederates (13)
 - 2. Abram enlisted 318 of his servants (14)
 - 3. They defeated the enemy (15)
 - 4. They recovered Lot and the captives (16)

III. Abram Was Blessed by Melchizedek (14:17-24)

- A. Abram met the king of Sodom (14:17)
- B. Abram was met by Melchizedek (14:18)
 - 1. He was king of Salem (Peace)
 - 2. He was king of righteousness
 - 3. He was the priest of the Most High God
 - 4. He brought bread and wine
 - 5. He was a type of Christ (Psa. 110:4, Heb. 7:1-28)
- B. Melchizedek blessed Abram (14:19-20)
- C. Abram paid tithes to Melchizedek (14:20)
- D. Abram refused a portion of the spoil (14:21-24)

Conclusion: Christians should learn to depend on God rather than family and might.

Lesson 8: Abram's Faith and Failure (Gen. 15-16)

Key Verse: "And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness." (Gen. 15:6)

Introduction: After Abram refused enrichment from earthly kings, God again promised him a posterity and a land. Abram believed God, but wanted assurance, so God confirmed his promise with a covenant oath. In spite of such assurance, Abram was persuaded to use human means to gain an heir, much to his sorrow.

I. Abram Believed God's Covenant Oath (15:1-21)

- A. God promised safety and reward (15:1)
- B. Abram interrupted, inquiring about his heir (15:2-3)
- C. God promised a natural heir (15:4-5)
- D. Abram's faith was imputed for righteousness (15:6)
- E. God promised a covenant land (15:7)
- F. Abram interrupted, desiring assurance (15:8)
- G. God confirmed the promises with a covenant oath (15:9-21)
 - 1. Abram prepared the covenant sacrifice (9-11)
 - 2. God assured Abram of his descendants and the land (12-16)
 - 3. The Lord's presence passed between the pieces (17)
 - 4. God gave an oath about the covenant land (18-21)

II. Abram Failed Through Human Means (16:1-16)

- A. Abram was persuaded to use human means (16:1-4)
 - 1. Sarah suggested an heir through Hagar (1-3)
 - 2. Abram was persuaded to take Hagar (4)
 - 3. Hagar conceived by Abram (4)
- B. Abram's human means failed (16:5-6)
 - 1. Sarah recognized her error (5)
 - 2. Sarah caused Hagar to flee (6)
- C. The Lord helped Hagar to return (16:7-14)
 - 1. The Angel of the Lord met her (7-8)
 - 2. The Angel of the Lord sent her back (9)
 - 3. The Angel of the Lord promised her a son (10-12)
 - 4. Hagar named the place after the LORD (13-14)
- D. Hagar bore a son, Ishmael, to Abram (16:15-16)

Conclusion: Abram's faith was counted to him for righteousness, but resorting to human means brought much difficulty and grief to his life.

Lesson 9: Abraham’s Vision and a Visit from the LORD (Gen. 17-18)

Key Verse: “‘And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God, walk before me, and be thou perfect.” (Gen. 17:1)

Introduction: After Abram failed by using human means to acquire an heir (Ishmael by Sarai’s handmaid Hagar), the LORD appeared to Abram as El-Shaddai (Almighty God), adding new details to the covenant. The LORD then appeared again to confirm the covenant promises and to announce the destruction of Sodom.

I. Abram Had a Covenant Vision of El-Shaddai (Gen. 17)

- A. Abram saw El-Shaddai in a vision (17:1)
- B. Abram was commanded to walk in perfection (17:1)
- C. El-Shaddai’s covenant promised new facts about Abram (17:2-14)
 - 1. He would multiply Abram exceedingly (2)
 - 2. Abram will be made a father of many nations (3-4)
 - 3. He received a new name “Abraham” (Father of many nations) (5)
 - 4. He will have nations and kings as descendants (6)
 - 5. The land of Canaan would be his forever (7-8)
 - 6. He was given the sign of circumcision (9-14)
- D. El-Shaddai’s covenant promised new facts about Abraham’s family (17:15-22)
 - 1. Sarai was given the name Sarah (15)
 - 2. Sarah would be the mother of the promised seed (16-18)
 - 3. Sarah’s son Isaac would be heir of the covenant (19, 21)
 - 4. Ishmael would become a great nation (20)
- E. Abraham and his male household were circumcised (17:23-27)

II. Abraham Had a Confirming Visit from the LORD (Gen. 18)

- A. The LORD ate with Abraham as a friend (18:1-8)
 - 1. The LORD and the two angels visited
 - 2. Abraham prepared them a meal
- B. The LORD talked about Sarah’s son (18:9-15)
 - 1. Sarah would have a son (9-10)
 - 2. Sarah laughed in unbelief (11-12)
 - 3. The LORD confirmed His promise (13-15)
- C. The LORD commended Abraham’s faithfulness (16-19)
- D. The LORD foretold Sodom’s judgment (18:20-22)
- E. Abraham interceded for Sodom (18:23-33)

Conclusion: The LORD is able to fulfill His covenants without human help, and He will judge sinners just as He did Sodom.

Lesson 10: Destruction of Sodom, and a Visit to Gerar (Gen. 19-20)

Key Verse: “And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.” (Gen. 19:29)

Introduction: The righteousness of Lot was not sufficient to save Sodom and Gommorah. The LORD did not find ten righteous persons in the cities, so He destroyed them with fire and brimstone. Abraham’s visit to Gerar resulted in compromise which brought judgment on his host and rebuke to himself, but he was restored.

I. Lot Was Delivered From the Destruction of Sodom (Gen. 19)

- A. The angels lodged with Lot (19:1-3)
- B. The angels blinded the Sodomites (19:4-11)
 - 1. The Sodomites demanded to “know” the angels (4-5)
 - 2. Lot attempted to protect the angels (6-9)
 - 3. The angels struck the Sodomites with blindness (10-11)
- C. The angels warned Lot to escape (19:12-15)
- D. The angels rescued Lot from death (19:16-23)
- E. The LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah (19:24-26)
- F. Abraham viewed Sodom’s destruction (19:27-29)
- G. Lot shamefully fathered two sons (19:30-38)

II. Abraham Was Disciplined for a Lapse of Faith (Gen. 20)

- A. Abraham journeyed to Gerar (20:1)
- B. Sarah was taken by King Abimelech (20:2)
- C. God rebuked Abimelech because of Sarah (20:3-7)
- D. Abimelech rebuked Abraham because of Sarah (20:8-13)
- E. Abimelech recompensed Abraham (20:14-16)
- F. Abraham prayed for Abimelech (20:17-18)

Conclusion: Lot’s continued compromising choices destroyed his family and failed to deliver his city. Although Abraham experienced an occasional lapse, his quick return to repentance, faith, and prayer brought healing and restoration.

Lesson 11: The Birth and Sacrifice of the Promised Son (Gen. 21-22)

Key Verse: “And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.” (Gen. 22:8)

Introduction: Abraham’s son of promise was born to his wife Sarah, and the son of the handmaid was cast out. Then the LORD tested Abraham’s faith by commanding the sacrifice of the son of promise. Abraham’s faith did not waiver so God provided a substitute and confirmed His covenant.

I. Isaac the Promised Son Was Born (Gen. 21)

- A. Sarah gave birth to Isaac (21:1-8)
 - 1. Sarah conceived and gave birth (1-2)
 - 2. Isaac was circumcised (3-4)
 - 3. Abraham celebrated the weaning of Isaac (5-8)
- B. Sarah asked that Hagar and Ishmael be cast out (21:9-11)
 - 1. Ishmael mocked at Isaac’s celebration (9)
 - 2. Sarah requested the expulsion of Hagar and son (10)
 - 3. Abraham grieved over the request (11)
 - 4. The LORD approved the expulsion (12-13)
 - 5. Hagar departed with Ishmael (14-16)
 - 6. The Angel of the LORD helped Hagar (17-19)
 - 7. Ishmael grew up and was married (20-21)
- C. Abraham made a covenant with Abimelech (21:22-34)

II. Abraham Sacrificed the Promised Son (Gen. 22)

- A. The LORD commanded Abraham to sacrifice Isaac (22:1-4)
 - 1. Abraham received the command (1-2)
 - 2. Abraham journeyed to the place (3-4)
- B. Abraham attempted to sacrifice Isaac (22:5-10)
 - 1. Abraham promised to return, by faith (5)
 - 2. Isaac asked about the missing lamb (6-7)
 - 3. Abraham expected God to provide, by faith (8)
 - 4. Abraham began the sacrifice (9-10)
- C. The LORD interrupted Abraham’s sacrifice (22:11-14)
 - 1. The Angel of the LORD interfered (11-12)
 - 2. The ram was found in the thicket (13)
 - 3. Abraham named the place: The LORD Will Provide (14)
- D. The LORD confirmed His covenant with Abraham (22:15-19)
- E. The descendants of Nahor are listed (22:20-24)

Conclusion: Abraham’s unwavering faith in the presence of impossible circumstances qualified him to be the father of all believers.

Lesson 12: A Funeral and a Wedding (Gen. 23-24)

Key Verse: “The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father’s house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence.” (Gen. 24:7)

Introduction: Sometime after the sacrifice of Isaac, Sarah died at the age of 127 years. Abraham mourned her death and purchased a burial place. Then Abraham sought a bride for Isaac, sending his servant to Haran to acquire the bride from his family there. The servant was led by the LORD to find Rebekah and bring her back to Isaac.

I. Sarah Died and Was Buried (Gen. 23)

- A. Sarah died at Hebron (23:1-2)
 - 1. She was 127 years old (1)
 - 2. Abraham mourned her death (2)
- B. Sarah was buried at Machpelah (23:3-20)
 - 1. Abraham purchased a burial place (3-16)
 - a. He sought to buy the cave of Machpelah (3-9)
 - b. He bargained for the purchase price (10-15)
 - c. He paid the agreed price (16)
 - 2. Abraham buried Sarah in the cave (17-20)

II. A Bride Was Found for Isaac (Gen. 24)

- A. The servant was sent for a bride (24:1-9)
 - 1. The servant swore an oath to Abraham (1-3, 9)
 - 2. The specifications for the bride were given (3-6)
 - 3. The servant was promised God’s guidance (7-9)
- B. The servant searched for the bride (24:10-27)
 - 1. The servant journeyed to Haran (10)
 - 2. The servant sought for a sign (11-14)
 - 3. The servant met Rebekah (15-27)
- C. The servant secured the bride (24:28-67)
 - 1. The servant requested Rebekah as bride (28-54)
 - 2. The servant returned with Rebekah (55-61)
 - 3. The servant reported to Isaac with Rebekah (62-67)

Conclusion: Abraham’s sorrow was replaced by joy over acquiring a bride for Isaac through whom the promised seed would be born.

Lesson 13: Abraham's Death and Isaac's Sojournings (Gen. 25-26)

Key Verse: "And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac; and Isaac dwelt by the well Lahairoi." (Gen. 25:11)

Introduction: After Sarah died, Abraham remarried and had many more children. Before his death, he confirmed Isaac as his heir and sent his other sons away, dying at the ripe old age of 175 years. In the meanwhile, Isaac had two sons, Jacob and Esau, and sojourned in the land of Gerar, learning to resolve difficulties with his neighbors.

I. Abraham Died and Jacob Bought the Birthright (Gen. 25)

A. Abraham died after a long life (25:1-18)

1. Abraham married Keturah (1-4)
2. Abraham made Isaac his heir (5-6)
3. Abraham died and was buried (7-11)
4. Ishmael's descendants are recorded (12-18)

B. Esau sold his birthright to Jacob (25:19-34)

1. Twins were born to Isaac (19-26)
 - a. Isaac pleaded to God for barren Rebekah (19-21)
 - b. Rebekah inquired of God about struggling fetus (22-23)
 - c. Rebekah gave birth to twins (24-26)
 - (1) Esau was hairy and red (25)
 - (2) Jacob grasped Esau's heel (26)
2. Jacob purchased the birthright from Esau (27-34)
 - a. The boys grew to manhood (27-28)
 - b. Esau hungered for Jacob's stew (29-30)
3. Jacob bargained for the birthright (31-32)
4. Esau sold it for a pot of stew (33-34)

II. Isaac Sojourned in Gerar (Gen. 26)

A. The LORD confirmed the covenant to Isaac (26:1-5)

B. Isaac's faith lapsed in Gerar (26:6-16)

1. Isaac went to dwell in Gerar (6)
2. Rebekah was taken by King Abimelech (7)
3. Abimelech rebuked Isaac about Rebekah (8-11)
4. Abimelech sent Isaac away (12-16)

C. Isaac solved his well problems (26:17-33)

1. The Philistines disputed with Isaac over wells (17-33)
2. Isaac made a covenant with Abimelech over the wells (27-33)

D. Esau married Hittite wives (26:34-35)

Conclusion: God fulfilled his promise by giving descendants to Abraham. But trouble arose on the horizon as a life-long rivalry began between Jacob and Esau.

Lesson 14: The Covenant Confirmed to Jacob (Gen. 27-28)

Key Verse: “And behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed.” (Gen. 28:13)

Introduction: Because of the prophecy at his birth and the purchase of the birthright, Rebekah and Jacob plotted to obtain the covenant blessing for Jacob. God confirmed the covenant to Jacob in the ladder vision at Bethel.

I. Jacob Stole His Brother’s Blessing (Gen. 27)

- A. Isaac planned to bless Esau (27:1-4)
- B. Rebekah plotted for Jacob to be blessed (27:5-17)
 - 1. Rebekah prepared disguised food (5-14)
 - 2. Rebekah disguised Jacob as Esau (15-17)
- C. Jacob deceived Isaac into blessing him (27:18-29)
 - 1. Jacob presented himself as Esau (18-20)
 - 2. Isaac interrogated Jacob (21-25)
 - 3. Isaac blessed Jacob (26-29)
- D. Esau pleaded for the blessing to be revoked (27:30-40)
 - 1. Isaac discovered he had blessed Jacob (30-33)
 - 2. Esau pleaded for a blessing (34-36)
 - 3. Isaac gave Esau a secondary blessing (37-40)
- E. Esau plotted revenge against Jacob (27:41-46)

II. The Covenant Confirmed to Jacob at Bethel (Gen. 28)

- A. Jacob departed for Haran (28:1-9)
 - 1. Isaac sent Jacob to Haran (1-5)
 - 2. Esau married a daughter of Ishmael (6-9)
- B. Jacob dreamed of the ladder to heaven (28:10-12)
- C. God confirmed the covenant to Jacob (28:13-15)
 - 1. Jacob was given the land (13)
 - 2. Jacob’s descendants would be innumerable (14)
 - 3. God would be with Jacob (15)
- D. Jacob worshipped and made a vow to God (28:16-22)
 - 1. He called the place Bethel (the House of God) (16-19)
 - 2. He vowed to tithe (20-22)

Conclusion: Although Jacob and Rebekah obtained the blessing through unethical means, God honored His promises anyway. He saw Jacob in his ultimate maturity, not in his sinful immaturity.

Lesson 15: Jacob Sojourned in Haran (Gen. 29-30)

Key Verse: “And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her.” (Gen. 29:20)

Introduction: Jacob the supplanter reaped the rewards of deception. Having deceived his father in acquiring the covenant blessing, Jacob himself was deceived in acquiring his wife. Intrigue and scheming characterized the building of his household.

I. Jacob Acquired Wives in Haran (Gen. 29)

- A. Jacob met Rachel and family in Haran (29:1-14)
 - 1. He met Rachel at a well (1-11)
 - 2. He met Laban at his home (12-14)
- B. Jacob worked seven years for Rachel’s hand (29:15-20)
- C. Laban substituted Leah for Rachel (29:21-27)
 - 1. Jacob asked for his wife (21)
 - 2. Laban secretly substituted Leah (22-24)
 - 3. Jacob discovered the fraud (25-27)
- D. Jacob worked again for Rachel (29-30)
- E. Leah bore Jacob four sons (29:31-35)

II. Jacob Acquired a Household in Haran (Gen. 30)

- A. Jacob acquired sons by his wives (30:1-24)
 - 1. Bilhah bore Dan and Naphtali (1-8)
 - 2. Zilpah bore Gad and Asher (9-13)
 - 3. Leah bore Issachar and Zebulun (14-20)
 - 4. Rachel bore Joseph (21-24)
- B. Jacob acquired possessions in Haran (30:25-43)
 - 1. Jacob schemed for wages (25-35)
 - a. Jacob desired to leave (25-26)
 - b. Laban requested him to stay (27-30)
 - c. Jacob got new wages (31-35)
 - 2. Jacob schemed for possessions (36-43)

Conclusion: Jacob learned by experience the folly of deception and scheming.

Lesson 16: Jacob Fled From Haran (Gen. 31)

Key Verse: “And the LORD said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee.” (Gen. 31:3)

Introduction: Jacob’s years of deception finally caught up with him. The relationship with his father-in-law became intolerable, and the Lord sent him back to Canaan. The parting was full of misunderstanding and strife. Only the intervention of God prevented serious trouble.

I Jacob Planned to Leave Haran (31:1-21)

- A. Jacob had strife with Laban (31:1-21)
- B. Jacob was sent from Laban by the LORD (31:3-16)
 - 1. The LORD commanded Jacob to return home (3)
 - 2. Jacob consulted with his wives (4-16)
 - a. He related the problem of strife (4-10)
 - b. He told of God’s command to leave (11-13)
 - c. The wives agree to leave for Canaan (14-16)
- C. Jacob stole away by night (31:17-21)
 - 1. They took their possessions (17-18)
 - 2. Rachel stole her father’s household idols (19)
 - 3. They left secretly at night (20-21)

II. Jacob Was Pursued by Laban (31:22-42)

- A. Laban was warned by God not to harm Jacob (31:22-24)
- B. Laban overtook Jacob in Gilead (31:25)
- C. Laban scolded Jacob for leaving (31:26-29)
- D. Laban searched for his household idols (31:30-35)
 - 1. He accused Jacob of stealing them (30)
 - 2. Jacob permitted Laban to search (31-32)
 - 3. Laban did not find them (33-35)
- E. Jacob rebuked Laban for mistreatment (31:36-42)

III. Jacob Promised Peace to Laban (31:43-55)

- A. They made a heap of witness (31:43-47)
- B. They agreed to be at peace (31:48-52)
- C. They swore an oath of peace (31:53-55)

Conclusion: Jacob’s years of deceit reveal the folly of depending on human schemes for success.

Lesson 17: Jacob Met God and Esau (Gen. 32-33)

Key Verse: “And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince has thou power with God and with men, and has prevailed.” (Gen. 32:28)

Introduction: In his desperate fear of meeting Esau, Jacob appealed to God for help. Jacob’s overnight encounter with God changed his whole life: Jacob, the supplanter, became Israel, a prince with God. Jacob made peace with Esau and settled down peaceably in a new location near Shechem.

I. Jacob Had an Encounter With God (Gen. 32)

- A. Jacob previewed the angel hosts (32:1-2)
 - 1. He met the angels of God (1)
 - 2. He named the place Mahanaim (Two Camps) (2)
- B. Jacob prepared to meet Esau (32:3-23)
 - 1. He sent forerunners to Esau (3-6)
 - 2. He divided his caravan into two companies (7-8)
 - 3. He prayed for deliverance (9-12)
 - a. He declared that he was obeying God (9)
 - b. He declared his need of God’s mercy (10)
 - c. He pleaded for deliverance from Esau’s wrath (11)
 - d. He reminded God of His covenant promise (12)
 - 4. He sent appeasement gifts to Esau (13-21)
 - 5. He sent his family across the Jabbok (22-23)
- C. Jacob prevailed with God (32:24-32)
 - 1. He wrestled with God all night (24-25)
 - 2. He was disabled by God (25)
 - 3. He was blessed by God before dawn (26-30)
 - a. Jacob prevailed for a blessing (26)
 - b. God changed his name to Israel (Prince with God) (27-28)
 - c. Jacob inquired about God’s name (29)
 - d. Jacob named the place Peniel (The Face of God) (30)
 - 4. He received a thorn in the flesh (31-32)

II. Jacob Ended His Enmity With Esau (Gen. 33)

- A. Jacob prepared for meeting Esau (33:1-3)
- B. Jacob presented his family to Esau (33:4-7)
- C. Jacob presented gifts to Esau (33:8-11)
- D. Jacob parted peaceably from Esau (33:12-17)
- E. Jacob pitched his tent safely near Shechem (33:18-20)

Conclusion: When Jacob ceased scheming and put his trust in God, he reached a new level of spiritual maturity. Many Christians never learn this important lesson.

Lesson 18: Jacob Had Shame and Revival (Gen. 34-35)

Key Verses: “Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments: And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went.” (Gen. 35:2-3)

Introduction: Jacob reaped a harvest of the flesh when shame visited his family at Shechem. His sons avenged the defilement of their sister with massacre. Jacob brought his family to revival at Bethel and the LORD protected them from the destruction by the Canaanites.

I. Shame Visited Jacob’s Family (Gen. 34)

(Jacob reaped a harvest of the flesh)

- A. Shechem defiled Dinah (34:1-3)
- B. Shechem requested Dinah as wife (34:4-12)
- C. Shechem was deceived by Jacob’s sons (34:13-17)
- D. Shechem’s city received circumcision (34:18-24)
- E. Simeon and Levi avenged their sister (34:25-31)

II. Revival Came to Jacob at Bethel (Gen. 35)

- A. Repentance was expressed at Bethel (35:1-8)
 - 1. Jacob returned to Bethel (1)
 - 2. Jacob restored the altar (1)
 - 3. Jacob removed the idols (2-8)
- B. Reaffirmation of the covenant was made (35:9-13)
 - 1. God reappeared to Jacob (9)
 - 2. God repeated the blessing on Jacob (9)
 - 3. God reiterated Jacob’s new name, Israel (10-11)
 - 4. God restated the promise of land and seed (11-13)
- C. Restoration of worship was accomplished (35:14-15)
- D. Rachel died in childbirth of Benjamin (35:16-26)
- E. Return to Hebron was made at Isaac’s death (35:27-29)

Conclusion: Although the past cannot be undone, turning to God in the present changes the course of one’s future.

Lesson 19: Esau's Genealogy and Joseph's Beginning (Gen. 36-37)

Key Verse: "Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt." (Gen. 37:28)

Introduction: Moses recorded the genealogy of Esau and began the lengthy history of Joseph. Despised and envied by his brothers, Joseph was sold as a slave into Egypt. The brothers deceived their father, Jacob, leading him to believe that Joseph had been killed by a wild animal.

I. Esau's Genealogy Is Reviewed (Gen. 36)

- A. Esau had three wives (36:1-3)
- B. Esau had five sons in Canaan (36:4-5)
- C. Esau migrated to Mt. Seir (36:6-8)
- D. Esau's descendants are listed (36:9-14)
- E. The chiefs of Edom are listed (36:15-19)
- F. The descendants of Seir are listed (36:20-30)
- G. The kings and chiefs of Edom are listed (36:31-43)

II. Joseph's Brothers Sold Him Into Egypt (Gen. 37)

- A. Joseph's brothers hated him (37:1-11)
 - 1. They hated him for his deeds (1-2)
 - 2. They hated him for his dress (3)
 - 3. They hated him for his dreams (4-11)
- B. Joseph's brothers plotted to kill him (37:12-27)
 - 1. Jacob sent Joseph to his brothers (12-17)
 - 2. Joseph's brothers planned to kill him (18-20)
 - 3. Reuben and Judah attempted to save him (21-27)
- C. Joseph's brothers sold him to the Midianites (37:28-30)
- D. Joseph's brothers made Jacob believe that Joseph died (37:31-36)

Conclusion: Brotherly hatred can lead to murder. Brotherly love results in deliverance from danger and praise to God.

Lesson 20: Judah's Shame and Joseph's Testing (Gen. 38-39)

Key Verse: "And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field." (Gen. 39:5)

Introduction: Two of Jacob's sons were tested, one failed and one continually succeeded. Judah failed morally, although God delivered him from utter defeat. Joseph remained morally pure and God prospered him even in very dark circumstances.

I. Judah Was Shamed in Canaan (Gen. 38)

- A. Judah's sons married and died (38:1-10)
 - 1. Judah married the daughter of Shua (1-2)
 - 2. Judah's wife bore three sons (3-5)
 - 3. Judah's son Er died in sin (6-7)
 - 4. Judah's son Onan also died in sin (8-10)
- B. Judah was tricked by Tamar (38:11-23)
 - 1. Judah did not give Tamar to Shelah as wife (11)
 - 2. Judah was enticed by Tamar posing as a harlot (12-23)
- C. Judah treated Tamar with justice (38:24-26)
- D. Tamar gave birth to Pharez and Zarah (38:27-30)

II. Joseph Was Tested in Potiphar's House (Gen. 39)

- A. Joseph was tested as a household slave (39:1-6)
 - 1. He was prospered by God (1-2)
 - 2. He was promoted by Potiphar (3-6)
- B. Joseph was tested as an honored steward (39:7-20)
 - 1. He was tempted by Potiphar's wife (7-12)
 - 2. He was falsely accused of crime (13-20)
- C. Joseph was tested as a humbled prisoner (39:21-23)
 - 1. He was prospered by God (21)
 - 2. He was promoted to administrator (22-23)

Conclusion: Moral fidelity is honored by God. Christians need not fail in times of temptation.

Lesson 21: Joseph Was Humbled and Honored (Gen. 40-41)

Key Verse: “And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt. And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph’s hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck.” (Gen. 41:41-42)

Introduction: Joseph was tested by the humiliation of false imprisonment. There he honored God in conduct and witness. As a result, God honored Joseph by promoting him to prime minister of Egypt. He moved from a prison to a palace.

I. Joseph Was Tested in the Prison House (Gen. 40)

- A. Joseph was tested with special prisoners (40:1-8)
- B. Joseph was tested as a dream interpreter (40:9-22)
 - 1. He interpreted the butler’s dream (9-15)
 - 2. He interpreted the baker’s dream (16-19)
 - 3. His interpretations were fulfilled (20-22)
- C. Joseph was tested by forgotten promises (40:23)

II. Joseph Was Honored in Egypt (Gen. 41)

- A. Joseph was honored as an interpreter of dreams (41:1-36)
 - 1. Pharaoh had troubled dreams (1-8)
 - 2. The butler remembered Joseph (9-13)
 - 3. Joseph interpreted Pharaoh’s dreams (14-32)
 - 4. Joseph advised Pharaoh about famine (33-36)
- B. Joseph was honored as prime minister (41:37-57)
 - 1. He was given a new office: prime minister (37-44)
 - 2. He was given a new name: sustainer of the land (45)
 - 3. He was given a new wife: Asenath (45)
 - 4. He was given a new authority: steward of food (46-49)
 - 5. He acquired a new family: two sons (50-57)

Conclusion: God often lets a Christian experience humbling before trusting him with honor. Faithfulness in times of testing may lead to much greater opportunities of service.

Lesson 22: Joseph Met His Brothers (Gen. 42-43)

Key Verse: “And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them; and he said unto them, Whence come ye? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food. And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him.” (Gen. 42:7-8)

Introduction: After Joseph became prime minister of Egypt, his brothers came to buy food because of the famine. Joseph recognized them but put them to the test to determine their character. If they could be trusted with Benjamin, he knew he could reveal himself to them.

I. Joseph’s Brothers Went to Egypt for Food (Gen. 42)

- A. Jacob sent his sons to Egypt for food (42:1-5)
 - 1. He sent his ten older sons (1-3)
 - 2. He kept Benjamin at home (4-5)
- B. Joseph’s brothers did not recognize him (42:6-8)
- C. Joseph accused his brothers as spies (42:9-14)
 - 1. Joseph accused them of spying (9)
 - 2. The brothers pleaded their innocence (10-14)
- D. Joseph tested his brothers loyalty (42:15-24)
 - 1. Joseph would keep them in prison until Benjamin came (15-17)
 - 2. Joseph would keep only Simeon until they brought Benjamin (18-20)
 - 3. The brothers quarreled over guilt (21-22)
 - 4. Joseph wept over the situation (23-24)
- E. Joseph returned their money in their sacks (42:25-28)
- F. Jacob received a report from his sons (42:29-34)
- G. Jacob became exceedingly discouraged (42:35-38)

II. Joseph’s Brothers Returned to Egypt for Food (Gen. 43)

- A. The brothers had to return to Egypt (43:1-14)
 - 1. Jacob commanded the brothers to return (1-2)
 - 2. Judah insisted that Benjamin go along (3-7)
 - 3. Judah became surety for Benjamin (8-10)
 - 4. Jacob resigned to his fate (11-14)
- B. The brothers had lunch with Joseph (43:15-34)
 - 1. They were invited to Joseph’s home (15-17)
 - 2. They explained the money problem to the steward (18-25)
 - 3. They met Joseph and gave a report (26-28)
 - 4. Joseph met Benjamin and wept (29-30)
 - 5. The brothers ate under puzzling circumstances (31-34)

Conclusion: Joseph recognized God’s sovereign hand in the events of his life. He would save the lives of the brothers who wanted to kill him.

Lesson 23: Joseph Revealed Himself to His Brothers (Gen. 44-45)

Key Verses: “And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.” (Gen. 45:4-5)

Introduction: Joseph put his brothers to the test and they proved to be genuinely protective of Benjamin. So Joseph revealed his identity to his brothers and sent them to bring his father to Egypt.

I. The Brothers Were Tested in Egypt (Gen. 44)

- A. They were tested over the divining cup (44:1-13)
 - 1. The cup was put in Benjamin’s sack (1-2)
 - 2. The steward accused Benjamin (3-12)
 - 3. The brothers were concerned over Benjamin (13)
- B. They were tested over Benjamin (44:14-34)
 - 1. They confessed past sins (14-16)
 - 2. Judah offered to substitute for Benjamin (17-34)

II. Joseph Revealed His Identity to His Brothers (Gen. 45)

- A. Joseph identified himself to his brothers (45:1-15)
 - 1. He cried for joy (1-2)
 - 2. He clarified his identity (3-4)
 - 3. He comforted his brothers (5-8)
 - 4. He commanded his brothers (9-15)
- B. Joseph invited Jacob to Egypt (45:16-28)
 - 1. The brothers were commanded to bring Jacob (16-20)
 - 2. The brothers returned to Jacob (21-24)
 - 3. The brothers persuaded Jacob to go (25-28)

Conclusion: God’s sovereign purposes overrule man’s evil deeds in order to work for the good of His people.

Lesson 24: Joseph Was Restored to His Father (Gen. 46-47)

Key Verse: “And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation.” (Gen. 46:3)

Introduction: Jacob inquired of the LORD about going to Joseph in Egypt. Having received God’s blessing, Jacob moved his family to Egypt where he rejoiced to be reunited with Joseph. Jacob met with Pharaoh and blessed him. In the meanwhile, Joseph managed the affairs of Egypt in the famine years.

I. Jacob Was Brought to Joseph in Egypt (Gen. 46)

- A. Jacob journeyed to Egypt (46:1-27)
 - 1. God commanded Jacob to go (1-4)
 - 2. Jacob undertook the journey (5-7)
 - 3. Jacob’s family recorded (8-27)
- B. Jacob met with Joseph (46:28-34)
 - 1. They met in Goshen (28-30)
 - 2. They decided on Goshen (31-34)

II. Jacob Was Blessed in Egypt (Gen. 47)

- A. Jacob met with Pharaoh (47:1-12)
 - 1. Jacob’s sons met Pharaoh (1-6)
 - 2. Jacob blessed Pharaoh (7-10)
 - 3. Jacob was nourished by Joseph (11-12)
- B. Joseph managed the famine years (47:13-26)
 - 1. He received Egypt’s money (13-14)
 - 2. He received Egypt’s cattle (15-17)
 - 3. He received Egypt’s land (18-22)
 - 4. He received Egypt’s revenue (23-26)
- C. Jacob multiplied in Egypt (47:27-31)
 - 1. His descendants greatly increased (27)
 - 2. He lived 17 years in Egypt (28)
 - 3. He arranged to be buried in Hebron (29-31)

Conclusion: God is able to preserve His people through difficult times, turning man’s evil plans to accomplish His purposes.

Lesson 25: Jacob Blessed Joseph's Sons (Gen. 48)

Key Verse: “And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben, and Simeon, they shall be mine.” (Gen. 48:5)

Introduction: When Jacob thought he was about to die, he called for Joseph and his sons. Then Jacob gave Joseph the double portion of the inheritance in place of Reuben and Simeon. Also, he placed Ephraim, Joseph's second born, ahead of Manasseh, his firstborn.

I. Joseph Was Called to Jacob (48:1-7)

- A. Joseph received Jacob's summons (48:1)
- B. Joseph was greeted by Jacob (48:2-4)
- C. Joseph's sons would replace Reuben and Simeon (48:5-7)
 - 1. Ephraim and Manasseh would replace Reuben and Simeon (5)
 - 2. Joseph's remaining sons would belong to Joseph (6-7)

II. Joseph's Sons Came for the Blessing (48:8-13)

- A. Jacob greeted Joseph's sons (48:8-11)
 - 1. Jacob asked their identity (8-9)
 - 2. Jacob kissed and embraced them (10)
 - 3. Jacob rejoiced to see them (11)
- B. Joseph guided his sons by birthright (48:12-13)
 - 1. Manasseh his firstborn was guided to Jacob's right hand
 - 2. Ephraim his second born was guided to Jacob's left hand

III. Jacob Changed the Blessing of Joseph's Sons (48:14-22)

- A. Jacob knowingly reversed his hands (48:14-16)
 - 1. He reversed his hands of blessing (14)
 - 2. He pronounced a blessing on Joseph (15-16)
- B. Joseph tried to correct Jacob's hands (48:17-18)
- C. Jacob refused to correct his blessing (48:19-22)
 - 1. He declared his deliberate intention (19)
 - 2. Ephraim was placed before Manasseh (19-20)
 - 3. Joseph was given the double portion (21-22)

Conclusion: God frequently sets aside the first that He may bless the second. Gentile Christians may rejoice that this principle brought them salvation.

Lesson 26: Jacob Blessed His Sons and Died (Gen. 49-50)

Key Verse: “All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them.” (Gen. 49:28)

Introduction: Jacob gave a prophetic blessing to his sons before he died. Judah received tribal headship and the Messianic promise; Joseph received the double portion. Jacob gave his sons instructions to bury him in Canaan. After a long life Joseph also died, leaving instructions to carry his bones to Canaan.

I. Jacob Blessed His Sons (Gen. 49)

- A. Jacob’s blessing was prophetic (49:1)
- B. Jacob set aside the blessing of Reuben, Simeon, Levi (49:2-7)
- C. Jacob blessed Judah with tribal headship (49:8-12)
- D. Jacob blessed other sons (49:13-21)
- E. Jacob blessed Joseph with the double portion (49:22-26)
- F. Jacob blessed Benjamin with victory and spoil (49:27-28)
- G. Jacob gave burial instructions (49:29-33)

II. Jacob and Joseph Died in Egypt (Gen. 50)

- A. Jacob died and was buried (50:1-14)
 - 1. Jacob died and was embalmed (1-3)
 - 2. Jacob’s sons mourned his death (4-11)
 - 3. Jacob’s sons buried him in Canaan (12-14)
- B. Joseph died after a long life (50:15-26)
 - 1. Joseph quieted his brothers’ fears (15-21)
 - 2. Joseph lived a long life (22-23)
 - 3. Joseph gave burial instruction (24-25)
 - 4. Joseph died and was embalmed (26)

Conclusion: Genesis began in the Garden and ended with “a coffin in Egypt.” The roots of the nation of Israel were planted in Egypt where it would grow to full strength, in preparation for the Exodus.