



GENESIS

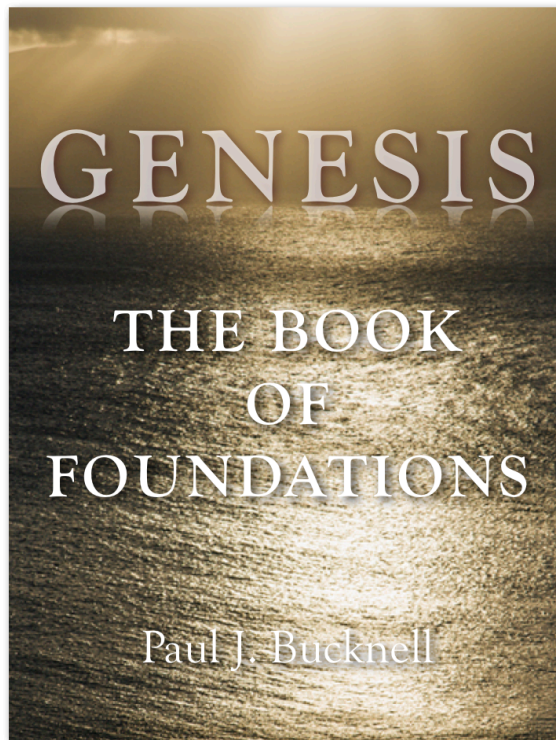
THE BOOK  
OF  
FOUNDATIONS

Paul J. Bucknell



# GENESIS

The Book of Foundations



by

Paul J. Bucknell

Genesis: The Book of Foundations  
The Living Commentary  
By Paul J. Bucknell.

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# *Preface*

The concepts arising from Genesis form the most fundamental understandings for life, society and worship. Secular societies have hammered secular and evolutionary ideas into our minds to forge us into a new kind of society contrary to God's revealed truth here in Genesis.

*Genesis: The Book of Foundations* is part of *The Living Commentary* series which is designed to become a teacher or student's assistant. The key teachings are presented through extensive commentary, teaching insights along with many helpful diagrams and thoughtful life applications. God has written the scriptures for mankind, not just for the scholarly. Maps and charts on genealogies along with many study questions make these teachings exciting to learn and pass on!

Stand firm on the foundation of God's Word and live a strong godly life. Where else can you learn about: the roots of society, the personal nature of man, marriage, relationships with God, sin, temptation, in and out of decision making, the devil, key global events and of course Christ the Promised One and His redemption.

*Genesis: The Book of Foundations* is not only a commentary tackling the interpretation of hard passages but a study that persistently seeks insight into the reasons God has recorded each passage for us. For example, why did God only spend a little more than one chapter on the exciting creation story while providing more than ten chapters on Joseph?

These materials have come from many years of personal study and teaching students the Book of Genesis. If one wants to build a strong foundation for one's Christian life, it must include a clear understanding of the Book of Genesis. Genesis is where it all began and the place changes take form in our lives!

Paul J. Bucknell

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# Table of Contents of Genesis

An Introduction to Genesis.....	11
Themes of Genesis.....	16
Genesis 1:1-31 Creation and the Worship of God.....	20
Genesis 1 and Reflections on World's Religions.....	29
Genesis 1:1-25 – Study Questions.....	33
Genesis 1:27 “Male and Female He Created Them”.....	35
Genesis 1:28 God's Greater Plan.....	41
Genesis 1:28-30 “Subdue it and Rule Over...”.....	46
Genesis 2:1-17 The Relationship Between God and Man.....	54
Genesis 2:4-17 – Study Questions.....	70
Genesis 2:18 “Not good...to be alone”.....	71
Genesis 2:18-25 “They shall become one flesh”.....	80
Genesis 2:18-25 – Study Questions.....	87
Genesis 3:1-13 The Fall of Man: Understanding Temptation and Sin.....	89
Genesis 3:7-13, 22 The Results of the Fall into Sin.....	98
Genesis 3:1-6 – Study Questions.....	102
Genesis 3:7-13 – Study Questions.....	104
Genesis 4:1-12 The Penetration of Evil.....	106
Genesis 4:1-26 – Study Questions.....	119
Genesis 5 Patriarchal Chart: The Beginning of Time.....	121
Genesis 5:21-25 Enoch's Secret Word: Methuselah.....	122
Genesis 6 The Pre-Flood Compromise.....	125
Genesis 6-9 – Study Questions on the Flood.....	130
Genesis 9:1-29 A Nasty Spring Cleaning.....	132
Genesis 10-11 Unity & Diversity: Noah's Sons and Babel.....	133

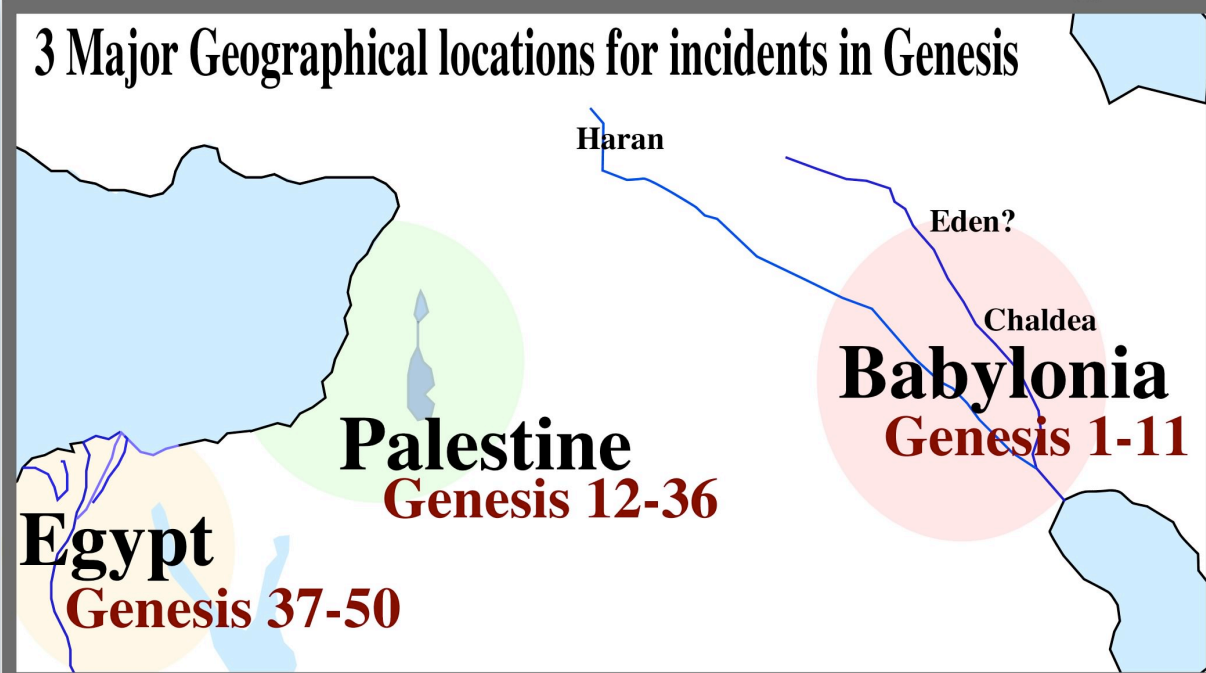
Genesis 10 and 11:10-32 – Study Questions.....	144
Genesis 11:1-9 – Study Questions.....	145
Genesis 11:28-32 Terah and Abraham’s Descendants – A Chart.....	146
Genesis 12-22 Abraham’s Journey of Faith.....	147
Genesis 12:1-3 In Search for Thanks.....	152
Genesis 12:1-9 Our Journey of Faith.....	159
Genesis 12:1-9 – Study Questions.....	176
Genesis 12-49 Abraham’s Descendants - A Chart.....	179
Genesis 12-16, 20 Abraham’s Costly Detours.....	180
Genesis 14 Abraham Saves Lot and Learns Much.....	191
Genesis 14:1-24 – Study Questions.....	206
Genesis 15:7-21 The Covenant of Hope.....	208
Genesis 18-19 Steps Down to Destruction.....	212
Genesis 24 Isaac.... Finding God’s Will & a Bride.....	221
Genesis 24 – Study Questions.....	222
Genesis 25-35 Appreciating God’s Discipline.....	223
Genesis 25:1-34 Making Right Decisions.....	229
Genesis 28:10-22 Surprising Encounters with God.....	238
Genesis 28:10-22 – Study Questions.....	248
Genesis 29 Jacob’s Two Wives.....	251
Genesis 31-32 The Making of a Man of God.....	252
Genesis 36 – Esau and His Descendants – A Chart.....	256
Genesis 39:1-23 Pursuing Integrity.....	257
Genesis 40 – Study Questions.....	275
Genesis 42-47:12 Joseph’s Disillusionment.....	277
Genesis 50:15-26 Essentials of Forgiveness.....	287



Genesis 50:15-26 – Study Questions.....	293
Appendix 1: Old Testament English Books in Chronological Order – Chart.....	297
Appendix 2: Old Testament Books in Hebrew Bible Arrangement.....	298
Appendix 3: Geographical Summary of Old Testament.....	299
Appendix 4: More on the Author.....	301
Appendix 5: Books by Paul J. Bucknell.....	302

# GENESIS

## THE BOOK OF FOUNDATIONS



# GENESIS

## *An Introduction to Genesis*

**Genesis is a book of foundations.**

**World cultures and philosophies have consistently attacked God's foundations from near to the beginning of creation. Today the warfare has escalated by the building of a world wide network to destroy God's work.**

"If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalms 11:3). Jesus laid the foundation for making faithful disciples. This is the reason we are to rebuild our lives on the commands and teachings of Jesus Christ.

A mature disciple, then, by definition is one in which he has been able to step out of his culture and build his life on the Word of God. He has been able to critique what he thinks, does and how he responds. The crippled Christian, the backslider, is absorbed in the culture – the world.

The more clearly we distinguish God's ways from the world's ways, the faster we will grow. If we can't discern the world's ways from God's ways, if we have not been able to have a firm foundation built in our lives, then we must admit that person is worldly and ensnared in Satan's temptation.

We hope through the book of Genesis to show you the difference between God's ways and man's ways. Be not scared of the world and its massive influence. Though God be subtle, it is His will that His people be established and all the nations bow before Him.

### **Objectives**

- Provide two outlines of Genesis to remember its content.
- Reflect on Genesis' place with the other books of Moses and the Bible through charts.
- Provide six graphic ways Genesis truths are interweaved into the whole Bible.
- Challenge us to the great importance of embedding the truths of Genesis in order to live strong Christian lives.





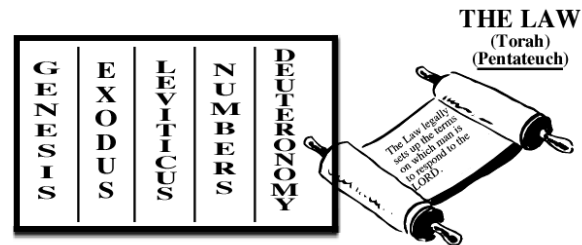
Our success in life will depend on how closely we build on God's foundation. Genesis is the foundation of foundations.

"He only is my rock and my salvation, My stronghold; I shall not be shaken. On God my salvation and my glory rest; The rock of my strength, my refuge is in God. Trust in Him at all times, O people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us" (Psalms 62:5-8).

## The Genius of Genesis

### How does Genesis fit into the overall scheme of the Bible?

The genius of Genesis is seen both in the way it introduces its material in strategic and clear segments as well as in the way its numerous themes are introduced in Genesis and interweaved throughout the Bible. These powerful themes strongly counter those faulty suggestions that state Genesis is a compilation of different accounts or a composite of heavily edited portions.



Genesis is the most foundational book in the scriptures and rightly described as the 'The Book of Beginnings.' Genesis is the first of the Law or the Pentateuch: the first five books of the Bible which Moses had written. See appendix one: [Old Testament Books in Chronological Order](#). We see this stated at the end of his life where it is written:

And it came about, when Moses finished writing the words of this law in a book until they were complete, that Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying, "Take this book of the law and place it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may remain there as a witness against you." (Dt 31:24-26)

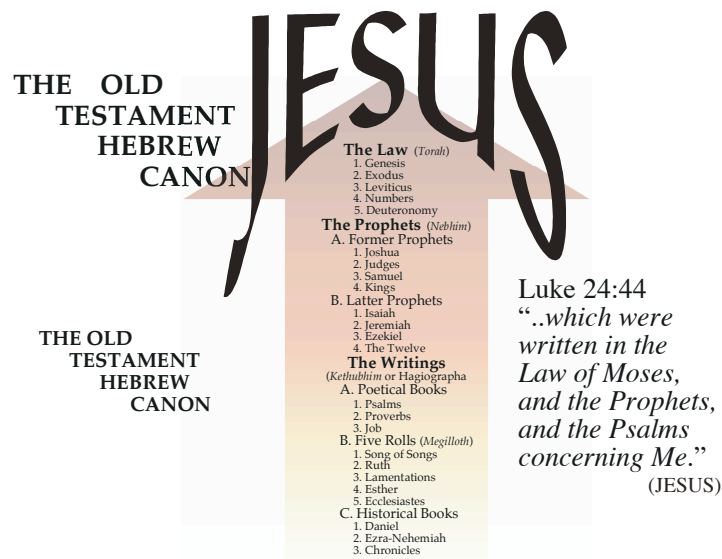
## The Old Testament Hebrew Canon Book Order

We get a larger picture of how Genesis fits into the whole Old Testament Cannon in this chart. The Jews often referred to the Hebrew scriptures in three different sections: the Law, Prophets and Psalms (Luke 24:44) or otherwise called the writings. This three part categorization is seen in appendix 2: Old Testament Books in Hebrew Bible Arrangement.

The greatest purpose of the Old Testament scriptures is to reveal the Messiah, Jesus Christ. The Messiah is pointed toward and hinted at in many places throughout Genesis.

The promised seed born of a woman to defeat the serpent speaks of Christ, and so does Joseph on the way he saves God's people. Noah's ark represents salvation from God's judgment in Christ while Jesus is the means Abraham's promise was fulfilled. The whole Old Testament points to the great Messiah, now fulfilled in Christ Jesus.

Jesus said, “..which were written in the Law of Moses, and the Prophets, and the Psalms concerning Me” (Luke 24:44).



## Genesis: Its Reliability and Unity

### 1. Demonstration of Unity of Genesis

Genesis' unity is evident through its clear outlines and interweaving themes. The reliability of the Genesis Hebrew Masoretic text (11th century) became obvious with the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Below are two outline displaying the unity of the Book of Genesis.

#### 1. Geographical Outline of Genesis

The three scenes of Genesis help us see the three big stages of God's operations in the early world. (See map on previous page.)

1. **Babylonia:** Preservation of the Godly Line (chapters 1-11) Adam to Noah
2. **Palestine:** Provision of God's Promise (chapters 12-36) Abram to Jacob
3. **Egypt:** Protection of God's People (chapters 37-50) Joseph and brothers

#### 2. Genealogical Outline of Genesis

After the prologue, where we find the true beginning of all things, we discover ten genealogies each introduced by the same Hebrew word meaning generation, account or record (Hebrew - *toledot*).

These series of genealogies most importantly show how God's promise and line of godly seed is passed down. More will be discussed later on when we examine an number of the unifying themes throughout Genesis. As we read different books of the Bible, we find the importance that these genealogies had. Most