

GENESIS

The Creation of the World

1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be an expanse¹ in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷And God made² the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse Heaven.³ And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth,⁴ and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants⁵ yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons,⁶ and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶And God made the two great

lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds⁷ fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. ²⁵And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man⁸ in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion

¹Or a canopy; also verses 7, 8, 14, 15, 17, 20 ²Or fashioned; also verse 16 ³Or Sky; also verses 9, 14, 15, 17, 20, 26, 28, 30; 2:1 ⁴Or Land; also verses 11, 12, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30; 2:1 ⁵Or small plants; also verses 12, 29 ⁶Or appointed times ⁷Or flying things; see Leviticus 11:19–20 ⁸The Hebrew word for man (adam) is the generic term for mankind and becomes the proper name Adam

ion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.”³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

The Seventh Day, God Rests

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

The Creation of Man and Woman


⁴ These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵ When no bush of the field¹ was yet in the land² and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground,⁶ and a mist³ was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—⁷ then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.⁸ And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.⁹ And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰ A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers.¹¹ The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the

whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.¹² And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.¹³ The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush.¹⁴ And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

ADAM



Adam, whose name means “man,” was the first human being. Created out of dust, he was made in the image of God. Adam was given dominion over the rest of creation and was placed in the garden of Eden to care for it. God created Eve as a helper for Adam, and together they enjoyed perfect fellowship with their Creator. But Adam and Eve chose to disobey God, which brought sin and death into the world. Because of their sin, all humans are now born sinners and will someday die. The Bible tells the story of how God redeems his creation from the curse of Adam’s sin. “For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive” (1 Cor. 15:22).

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat⁴ of it you shall surely die.”

¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for⁵ him.”¹⁹ Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed⁶ every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.²⁰ The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every

¹ Or open country ² Or earth; also verse 6 ³ Or spring ⁴ Or when you eat ⁵ Or corresponding to; also verse 20 ⁶ Or And out of the ground the LORD God formed

A HELPER FIT FOR HIM

GENESIS 2

I've had no greater joy in life than witnessing the wedding celebrations of my two daughters. One thing that contributed greatly to the happiness of that experience is that I, their father, performed the ceremonies. In doing so I reflected at length on Genesis 2, where we are given profound teaching on what it means to be a woman.

After God created Adam from the dust of the ground and breathed into him the breath of life, he placed him in the garden of Eden. There, in the splendor and beauty of that garden, as yet unstained by sin, one might think that Adam could ask for little more. With dominion over the creation and access to all the glory of God's handiwork, it seemed as if "paradise" was the only word fit to describe the life that was his.

But something wasn't quite right. There was something incomplete and unfinished about Adam's existence. For we read that the Lord God of heaven and earth looked down upon the pinnacle of his creative efforts and said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him" (Gen. 2:18). On the one hand, a woman is made in the image of God, whether married or not. At the same time, a husband and wife are made for one another. They are to be lifelong companions, best friends, united in covenant relationship.

But there is an even greater message in marriage. Scripture tells us that when God chose to create this universe and all that is in it, he had one ultimate and all-consuming purpose in his heart. Everything else was subordinate to this one goal. Whatever else God would do or say, it would all serve to achieve this single, consummate design—namely, to glorify himself by securing a bride for his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. All of biblical history, from the creation of Adam and Eve in Genesis to the descent of the new heavens and new earth in Revelation, is the story of the Father's loving redemption and relentless pursuit of a bride, the church, for the bridegroom, Jesus Christ. Marriage is the glorious opportunity for a man and a woman to embody, express, and illustrate this love relationship between Jesus Christ and his bride, the church.

And yet this is not to say that marriage is required for a fulfilling life. Jesus himself, after all, was single his whole life. As meaningful as marriage is, what brings supreme fulfillment in life is not knowing and being loved by any other human being, but knowing and being loved by God. While it will be painful to lack the companionship of marriage, all God's people, married or single, are called to trust in him alone for their joy and comfort. He will never leave us or forsake us. He is a good Father.

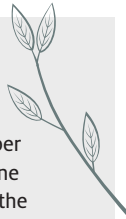
beast of the field. But for Adam¹ there was not found a helper fit for him.²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made² into a woman and brought her to the man.²³ Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man.”³

²⁴Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

EVE

God created Eve, whose name means “life,” as a helper for Adam. Fashioned from one of Adam’s ribs, Eve became the mother (that is, the female ancestor) of all human beings. Though enjoying perfect fellowship with God, Eve was deceived by the serpent and disobeyed God by eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Because of their sin, Adam and Eve were driven from the paradise of Eden and began to experience great hardship. For Eve, that included pain in childbearing. Yet, as promised in Genesis 3:15, one of her offspring would defeat the serpent and bring salvation and eternal life to all who put their trust in him.



The Fall

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You⁴ shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”² And the woman said to the serpent,

“We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise,⁵ she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool⁶ of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”⁷ ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.”¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring⁸ and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.

¹ Or the man ² Hebrew built ³ The Hebrew words for woman (*ishshah*) and man (*ish*) sound alike. ⁴ In Hebrew you is plural in verses 1–5 ⁵ Or to give insight ⁶ Hebrew wind ⁷ In Hebrew you is singular in verses 9 and 11 ⁸ Hebrew seed; so throughout Genesis

Your desire shall be for¹ your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷ And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice
of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the
days of your life;

¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth
for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the
field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰ The man called his wife’s name Eve,
because she was the mother of all living.²

²¹ And the LORD God made for Adam and for
his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

²² Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the
man has become like one of us in knowing
good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his
hand and take also of the tree of life and eat,
and live forever—”²³ therefore the LORD God
sent him out from the garden of Eden to
work the ground from which he was taken.

²⁴ He drove out the man, and at the east of
the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim
and a flaming sword that turned every way
to guard the way to the tree of life.

Cain and Abel

4 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she
conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have
gotten³ a man with the help of the LORD.”

² And again, she bore his brother Abel.
Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain
a worker of the ground. ³ In the course of
time Cain brought to the LORD an offering
of the fruit of the ground, ⁴ and Abel also
brought of the firstborn of his flock and of
their fat portions. And the LORD had regard
for Abel and his offering, ⁵ but for Cain and
his offering he had no regard. So Cain was

very angry, and his face fell. ⁶ The LORD said
to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has
your face fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you
not be accepted?⁴ And if you do not do well,
sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for⁵
you, but you must rule over it.”

⁸ Cain spoke to Abel his brother. ⁶ And when
they were in the field, Cain rose up against his
brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ Then the LORD
said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?”
He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s
keeper?” ¹⁰ And the LORD said, “What have
you done? The voice of your brother’s blood
is crying to me from the ground. ¹¹ And now
you are cursed from the ground, which has
opened its mouth to receive your brother’s
blood from your hand. ¹² When you work
the ground, it shall no longer yield to you
its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a
wanderer on the earth.” ¹³ Cain said to the
LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can
bear.” ⁷ ¹⁴ Behold, you have driven me today
away from the ground, and from your face
I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a
wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds
me will kill me.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him,
“Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall
be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD
put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him
should attack him. ¹⁶ Then Cain went away
from the presence of the LORD and settled in
the land of Nod,⁸ east of Eden.

¹⁷ Cain knew his wife, and she conceived
and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he
called the name of the city after the name
of his son, Enoch. ¹⁸ To Enoch was born Irad,
and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael
fathered Methushael, and Methushael
fathered Lamech. ¹⁹ And Lamech took two
wives. The name of the one was Adah, and
the name of the other Zillah. ²⁰ Adah bore
Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell
in tents and have livestock. ²¹ His brother’s
name was Jubal; he was the father of all
those who play the lyre and pipe. ²² Zillah
also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all
instruments of bronze and iron. The sister
of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

²³ Lamech said to his wives:

“Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;
you wives of Lamech, listen to what
I say:

¹ Or against ² Eve sounds like the Hebrew for *life-giver* and resembles the word for *living* ³ Cain sounds like the Hebrew for *gotten* ⁴ Hebrew will there not be a lifting up [of your face]? ⁵ Or against ⁶ Hebrew; Samaritan, Septuagint, Syriac, Vulgate add Let us go out to the field ⁷ Or My guilt is too great to bear

⁸ Nod means wandering

THE FALL OF MAN AND THE GRACE OF GOD

GENESIS 3

Created in the image of God and placed in a garden of serene beauty, Adam and Eve had nothing to fear or be anxious about. They enjoyed beauty and goodness and unhindered fellowship with one another and their Creator. But with one act of disobedience, everything changed. In a moment, death and evil were introduced into the world, devastating both creation (Rom. 8:20–22) and humankind (Rom. 5:12–15). It is appropriate for us to feel the gravity of what was lost in the fall when we read this passage.

At the same time, the evidences of God's grace in Genesis 3 are astounding. God would have been completely just had he immediately returned Adam to the dust from which he came and been done with humanity. Instead, he showed mercy and compassion. Reason for hope, in spite of sin, is evident in at least four ways in this passage.

The first is seen in God's curse upon the serpent: "I will put enmity between you and the woman. And between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Gen. 3:15). Theologians call this verse the *Protoevangelium*—the first announcement of the gospel. Immediately after sin enters the world, God initiates a plan to deal with it. This plan to reconcile people to himself becomes a unifying theme throughout the Bible, culminating in the person of Jesus Christ, the second Adam (Rom. 5:18–21), whose death and resurrection defeated sin, death, and the Devil (Heb. 2:14–15).

The second place we see God's grace is in Genesis 3:20, when Adam gives his wife a name. The verse almost seems out of place. Why mention this here? The name Eve means "life-giver." Although it will be in pain that she will bring forth children (v. 16), God is not done with humanity. Despite her sin, Eve will have the distinction of being "the mother of all living."

Third, verse 21 says, "the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them." That these garments were made of skins implies that an animal had to die to cover Adam and Eve's nakedness. This hints at the sacrificial system as well as the eventual work of Christ, through which we are clothed with his righteousness. It also shows the fatherly love of God toward his children. He did not leave us naked and ashamed.

Fourth, even God's driving Adam and Eve from Eden was an act of grace. The tree of life apparently served in some way to confirm a person in his or her moral condition (vv. 22–23). God refuses to allow Adam and Eve to eat from this tree of life and thus remain forever in their sinful state. He bars access to the tree until Jesus returns, at which time those of us who belong to him will once again be able to enjoy its fruit (Rev. 22:14).

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

²⁴ If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold."

²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed¹ for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him."²⁶ To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.

Adam's Descendants to Noah

5 This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God.² Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man² when they were created.³ When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.⁴ The days of Adam after he fathered Seth were 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters.⁵ Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died.

⁶ When Seth had lived 105 years, he fathered Enosh.⁷ Seth lived after he fathered Enosh 807 years and had other sons and daughters.⁸ Thus all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died.

⁹ When Enosh had lived 90 years, he fathered Kenan.¹⁰ Enosh lived after he fathered Kenan 815 years and had other sons and daughters.¹¹ Thus all the days of Enosh were 905 years, and he died.

¹² When Kenan had lived 70 years, he fathered Mahalalel.¹³ Kenan lived after he fathered Mahalalel 840 years and had other sons and daughters.¹⁴ Thus all the days of Kenan were 910 years, and he died.

¹⁵ When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he fathered Jared.¹⁶ Mahalalel lived after he fathered Jared 830 years and had other sons and daughters.¹⁷ Thus all the days of Mahalalel were 895 years, and he died.

¹⁸ When Jared had lived 162 years he fathered Enoch.¹⁹ Jared lived after he fathered Enoch 800 years and had other sons and daughters.²⁰ Thus all the days of Jared were 962 years, and he died.

²¹ When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah.²² Enoch walked with God³ after he fathered Methuselah 300

years and had other sons and daughters.

²³ Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years.

²⁴ Enoch walked with God, and he was not,⁴ for God took him.

²⁵ When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he fathered Lamech.²⁶ Methuselah lived after he fathered Lamech 782 years and had other sons and daughters.²⁷ Thus all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died.

²⁸ When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son²⁹ and called his name Noah, saying, "Out of the ground that the LORD has cursed, this one shall bring us relief⁵ from our work and from the painful toil of our hands."³⁰ Lamech lived after he fathered Noah 595 years and had other sons and daughters.³¹ Thus all the days of Lamech were 777 years, and he died.

³² After Noah was 500 years old, Noah fathered Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Increasing Corruption on Earth

6 When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them,² the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose.³ Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not abide in⁶ man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years."⁴ The Nephilim⁷ were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.

⁵ The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.⁶ And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.⁷ So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them."⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

Noah and the Flood

⁹ These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.¹⁰ And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹ Seth sounds like the Hebrew for he appointed ² Hebrew adam ³ Septuagint pleased God ⁴ Septuagint was not found ⁵ Noah sounds like the Hebrew for rest ⁶ Or My Spirit shall not contend with ⁷ Or giants

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence.

¹² And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. ¹³ And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh,¹ for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. ¹⁴ Make yourself an ark of gopher wood.² Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. ¹⁵ This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits,³ its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits. ¹⁶ Make a roof⁴ for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third decks. ¹⁷ For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸ But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹ And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. ²⁰ Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive. ²¹ Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them." ²² Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

7 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. ² Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals,⁵ the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate,³ and seven pairs⁶ of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth. ⁴ For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing⁷ that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." ⁵ And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

⁶ Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth.

⁷ And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. ⁸ Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, ⁹ two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰ And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

¹¹ In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. ¹² And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. ¹³ On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, ¹⁴ they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. ¹⁵ They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. ¹⁶ And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in.

¹⁷ The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth.

¹⁸ The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. ²⁰ The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits⁸ deep. ²¹ And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. ²² Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. ²³ He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. ²⁴ And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days.

¹ Hebrew *The end of all flesh has come before me* ² An unknown kind of tree; transliterated from Hebrew ³ A cubit was about 18 inches or 45 centimeters

⁴ Or skylight ⁵ Or seven of each kind of clean animal ⁶ Or seven of each kind ⁷ Hebrew *all existence*; also verse 23 ⁸ A cubit was about 18 inches or 45 centimeters

The Flood Subsides

8 But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided. ²The fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, ³and the waters receded from the earth continually. At the end of 150 days the waters had abated, ⁴and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. ⁵And the waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen.

⁶At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made ⁷and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. ⁸Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. ⁹But the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. ¹⁰He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. ¹¹And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. ¹²Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.

¹³In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. ¹⁴In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. ¹⁵Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶“Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. ¹⁷Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” ¹⁸So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him. ¹⁹Every beast, every creeping thing,

and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out by families from the ark.

God’s Covenant with Noah

²⁰Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. ²¹And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, “I will never again curse¹ the ground because of man, for the intention of man’s heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done. ²²While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”

9 And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. ²The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. ³Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. ⁴But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. ⁵And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man.

⁶ “Whoever sheds the blood of man,
by man shall his blood be shed,
for God made man in his own image.

⁷And you,² be fruitful and multiply, increase greatly on the earth and multiply in it.”

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth.

¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth

¹Or *dishonor* ²In Hebrew you is plural

and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Noah's Descendants

¹⁸The sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) ¹⁹These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the people of the whole earth were dispersed. ¹

²⁰Noah began to be a man of the soil, and he planted a vineyard. ² ²¹He drank of the wine and became drunk and lay uncovered in his tent. ²²And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. ²³Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness. ²⁴When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵he said,

“Cursed be Canaan;
a servant of servants shall he be to
his brothers.”

²⁶He also said,

“Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem;
and let Canaan be his servant.
²⁷ May God enlarge Japheth, ³
and let him dwell in the tents of
Shem,
and let Canaan be his servant.”

²⁸After the flood Noah lived 350 years.

²⁹All the days of Noah were 950 years, and he died.

Nations Descended from Noah

10 These are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Sons were born to them after the flood.

²The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

³The sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. ⁴The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. ⁵From these the coastland peoples spread in their lands, each with his own language, by their clans, in their nations.

⁶The sons of Ham: Cush, Egypt, Put, and Canaan. ⁷The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. The sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan. ⁸Cush fathered Nimrod; he was the first on earth to be a mighty man. ⁴ ⁹He was a mighty hunter before the LORD. Therefore it is said, “Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the LORD.” ¹⁰The beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. ¹¹From that land he went into Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and ¹²Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city. ¹³Egypt fathered Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, ¹⁴Pathrusim, Casluhim (from whom ⁵ the Philistines came), and Caphtorim.

¹⁵Canaan fathered Sidon his firstborn and Heth, ¹⁶and the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites, ¹⁷the Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites, ¹⁸the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites. Afterward the clans of the Canaanites dispersed. ¹⁹And the territory of the Canaanites extended from Sidon in the direction of Gerar as far as Gaza, and in the direction of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, as far as Lasha. ²⁰These are the sons of Ham, by their clans, their languages, their lands, and their nations.

²¹To Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the elder brother of Japheth, children were born. ²²The sons of Shem: Elam, Asshur, Arpachshad, Lud, and Aram. ²³The sons of Aram: Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash. ²⁴Arpachshad fathered Shelah; and Shelah fathered Eber. ²⁵To Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg, ⁶ for in his days the earth was divided, and his brother's name was Joktan. ²⁶Joktan fathered Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, ²⁷Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, ²⁸Obal, Abimael, Sheba, ²⁹Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab; all these were the sons of Joktan. ³⁰The territory in which they lived extended from Mesha in the direction of Sephar to the hill country of the east. ³¹These are the sons of Shem, by their clans, their languages, their lands, and their nations.

¹ Or from these the whole earth was populated ² Or Noah, a man of the soil, was the first to plant a vineyard ³ Japheth sounds like the Hebrew for enlarge ⁴ Or he began to be a mighty man on the earth ⁵ Or from where ⁶ Peleg means division