

## Study No.2 Creation and the Earliest Humans



### Timeframe of events:

c.4000 B.C. to c.2000 B.C.

**Summary:** We commence our chronological reading of the Bible by focussing on Genesis 1 to 11, the main events being the creation, the fall of mankind, the deadly flood, the rebirth of the human race and its subsequent scattering. This portion covers the first 2000 years of human existence, and so much takes place in relatively few chapters! In addition, our readings include a portion of the book of Job, a story that most likely took place before the events of Genesis 12.

### Main Reading / Listening



Read and/or listen to the following passages at least once. Twice is better for taking it all in!

### As a minimum, please read or listen to:

Genesis ch.1-11.

### To read the entire Bible systematically, this week's readings are:

#### *Creation:*

John 1:1-5

Genesis 1, 2

Psalm 8, 19, 33, 104.

#### *The Earliest Humans:*

Genesis 3:1-11:26

1 Chronicles 1:1-28

Job 1 to 3, 10:1-7; 40:1-5; 42:1-3

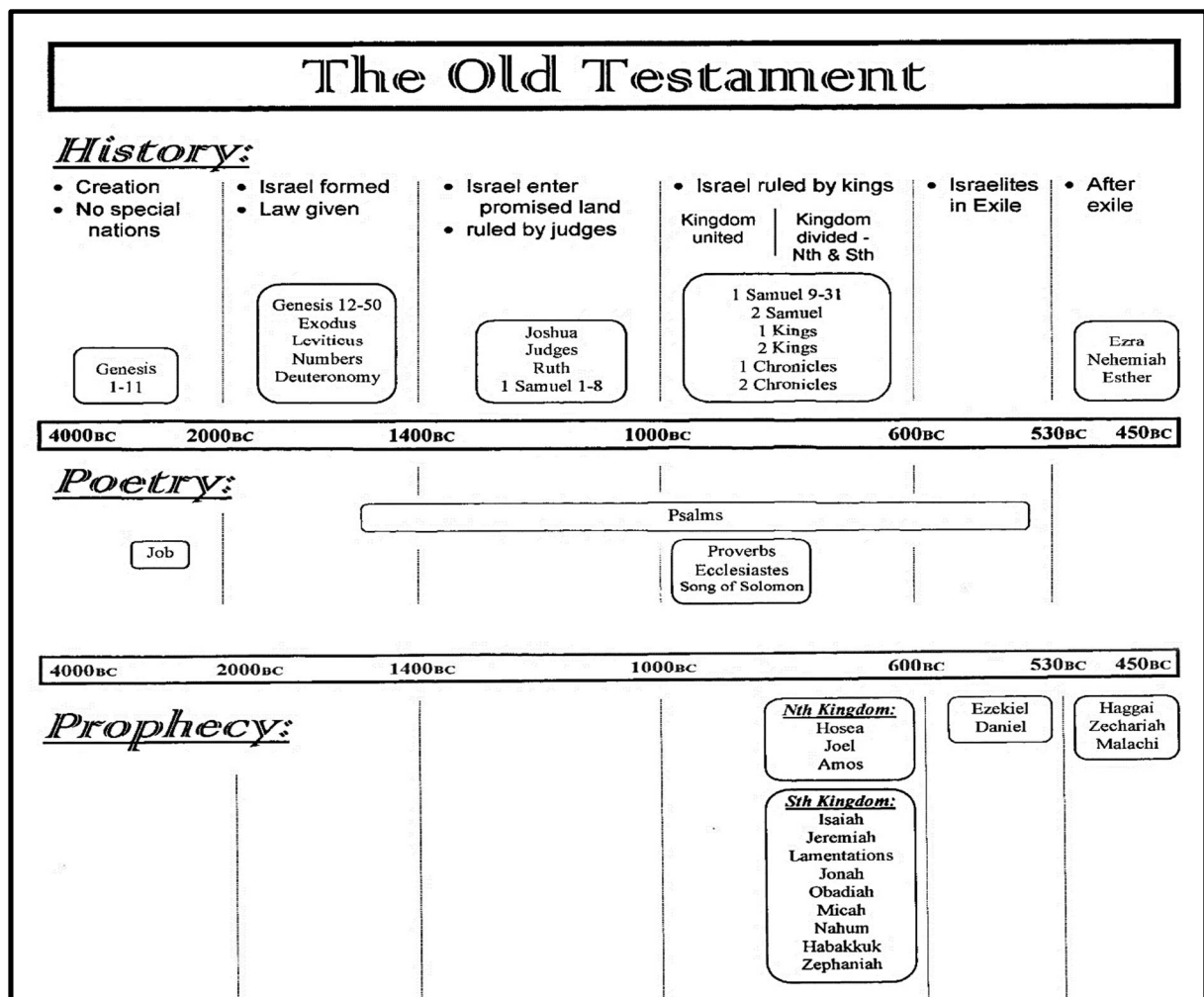
(we will read the entire book of Job later on)

Relevant Charts:



### Four Main Events of Genesis 1 to 11

- Creation (Genesis 1 & 2)
- Fall of mankind (Genesis 3)
- Flood (Genesis 6 to 8)
- Nations scattered (Genesis 11)



**For further study:**

*Attempt one or more of the following tasks to enhance your understanding and appreciation of the main subjects covered in the readings above.*



- Jot down any questions arising from this study's readings. Ask someone else for help, or conduct your own research to try and answer these questions.

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- Note any passages, verses, themes or lessons that have stood out to you from this study's readings. Write down or verbalise your reasons.

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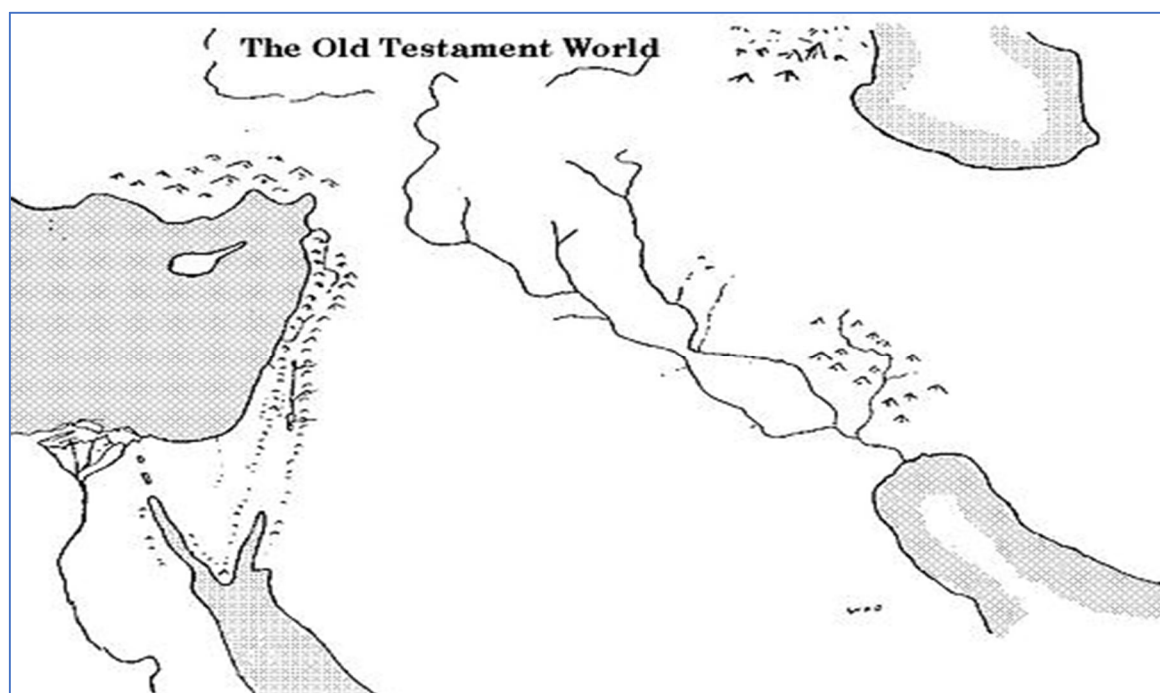


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- Read these other Bible passages that relate to the content of this week's readings:

- Job ch.38 to 41
- Isaiah 40:18-31
- Ezekiel 28:11-19
- Matt 24:36-39
- Luke 3:23, 34-38
- Acts 17:22-29
- Romans 5:12-19
- Hebrews 11:1-7
- 1 Peter 3:18-20
- 2 Peter 3:1-7

- Locate the approximate sites of the following places on the map on the next page: Eden (Genesis 2:8), Euphrates River (2:14); Mt. Ararat (8:4), Shinar (11:2), Babel (11:9), Ur (11:29), Haran (11:31), Canaan (11:31). Use your Bible's maps or conduct an internet search to help you.



For much deeper study:



- Read or refer to the following books, articles, etc. Some are available on [www.systematicbiblestudy.com](http://www.systematicbiblestudy.com), and most are available in hard copy or electronic formats, online and offline:
  - Companion Bible Appendices:
    - 2. Genesis: The Foundation of Divine Revelation
    - 3. Genesis and Revelation
    - 5. Creation v. Evolution
    - 11. The word "day" in Genesis 1
    - 19. The Serpent of Genesis 3
    - 20. The Posterity of Cain
    - 21. Calling on the name of the Lord
    - 22. The Antediluvian Patriarchs, and the Flood Date
    - 23. The "Sons of God"
    - 24. The "120 years" of Genesis 6:3
    - 25. The Nephilim or Giants of Genesis 6
    - 26. Noah being "perfect"
    - 28. Nimrod
  - "Job - The Oldest Lesson in the World", by Dr. E. W. Bullinger.
  - "The Pleroma" series, Parts 1 to 14 (found in Berean Expositor Volumes 41 & 42). Covers many events of Genesis 1 to 11.

- "Satan" article by Charles Welch (paperback booklet, also found in "Alphabetical Analysis" Part 4 pp.110-116 PDF)
  - "Theories of Creation" - Sylvia Penny
  - "Without Form and Void" - Arthur Custance (promoting the "Gap" theory)
  - "Unformed and Unfilled" by Weston Fields (a rebuttal of Custance's book, "Without Form and Void" - see above)
- Listen to these audio messages:
    - Charles Welch W63 to W71 (part of "The Pleroma" series)
    - Ernest Streets: S072 "Genesis"; S089 "Job".

**Consider and discuss  
the following questions:**



Creation:

- 1) To Whom is creation ascribed, according to Genesis 1:1, 2,?
- 2) To Whom is creation ascribed, according to Isaiah 44:24; Job 38:1, 4; John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:16?
- 3) What did God create? (Genesis 1:1)
- 4) What are the implications of believing we are created by a superior being instead of having evolved from nothing?
- 5) Is there room for evolutionary thought, to some degree, in Christianity?
- 6) Why did God create?
- 7) Was there a "gap" between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2? i.e. was the earth first created, then become devastated, and then re-created starting at Genesis 1:3? Give reasons for your answer.
- 8) Do you believe that God created everything in Genesis 1:3-31 in six literal 24-hour days? Give reasons for your answer.

- 9) Literally calculating the years stated in the Bible, Adam would have been created some time around 4000 B.C., making this current creation only about 6000 years old. Do you think this is the case? Give reasons for your answer.
- 10) In Genesis 1:3-5, on day one, God said, "Let there be light ... [and He] called the light Day". However, the sun was not created until day four (v.14-19). Explain this.
- 11) What does God being the Creator of mankind imply for: (a) human beings as a race, and (b) you as an individual?
- 12) In Genesis 1:26, 3:22 and 11:7, God refers to His own self in a plural form. Why?

### The Earliest Humans:

- 13) Does God create each person individually, or did He set up the biological processes for procreation with Adam's and Eve's creation once for all time (Genesis 2:7, 21; 4:1)? Give reasons for your answer.
- 14) Why did God create a race of people whom He must have known would sin (Genesis ch.3; 4; 6:5; etc.)?
- 15) Why did God create beings that He knew would reject His outstretched hand (Isaiah 65:2)?
- 16) Was the garden called Eden, or was the garden in Eden (Genesis 2:8, 10; 3:15; 4:16)?
- 17) What kind of fruit did Eve give Adam to eat (Genesis 3:6)?
- 18) Who or what was the serpent of Genesis 3?
- 19) Who or what is Satan?
- 20) Is the serpent of Genesis 3 the same being that we encounter in Job chapters 1 and 2? Give reasons for your answer.
- 21) Why did God not respect Cain's offering (Genesis 4:5)?
- 22) What is meant by the phrase, "sin lies at the door" (Genesis 4:7)?

- 23) What purpose is served by lengthy genealogical lists in the Bible, such as those found in Genesis chapters 5 and 10?
- 24) What is meant by the phrase: "Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him."? (Genesis 5:24)
- 25) How many of each kind of animal did Noah take on to the ark? (Genesis 7:2,3)
- 26) Was "Noah's Flood" (Genesis 7:17-24) worldwide or was it restricted to just one local region? Give reasons for your answer.
- 27) What is an "ark"?
- 28) For how long were Noah and his family on the ark? (Genesis 7:1-8:16)
- 29) Adam, Methuselah and Noah are described as each having lived for over 900 years (Genesis 5:5; 5:27; 9:29). Are these numbers figurative or literal? and if literal, how could this be?
- 30) In Genesis 11:6, we read that "the people are one and they all have one language ... nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them". After this, the Lord scattered the nations and confused their language (11:8,9). Thinking about more modern times, when many distance and language barriers have been broken down, what sort of things, if any, could people now achieve that they "propose to do"; i.e. things that could not have been achieved immediately after the scattering of c.2000 B.C.?
- 31) The subject of suffering features strongly in the book of Job. Is Job's story a "handbook" on why God allows suffering? Give reasons for your answer.
- 32) Why does God allow suffering today?
- 33) What can we learn of God's righteousness from the readings in Job?
- 34) Dr. E. W. Bullinger titled his survey of Job, "The Oldest Lesson in the World". Considering all the Bible-based doctrines you are aware of, do you think that the lessons about God's righteousness in Job are indeed the oldest for mankind to learn? Give reasons for your answer.
- 35) Are these same lessons in Job the most important in the Bible? Give reasons for your answer.