

Key to GENESIS

1. STATISTICS:

Name means "beginnings" or "originations." Writer is law-giver Moses (Exodus 17:14; Deuteronomy 31:24); time of writing approximately 1500 B.C. Genesis is first of Pentateuch (meaning five books); place of writing, undoubtedly in wilderness. It is fourth largest book in Bible; covers more than 2,500 years of human history.

2. THEME:

Genesis depicts the first chapter of life. Here is the true story of how all things began. Here is the stately portal to the grand structure of the Holy Scriptures. Here is man's introduction to the magnificence of GOD Almighty. Here is the sad story of the introduction of sin.

3. OUTLINE:

Creation (1, 2) Deluge (6-9)
Fall (3, 4) Nations (10, 11)
Patriarchs (5) Abraham (12-25)

4. SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Here is a book of simple, direct honesty. There is no hesitation, no supposition, no apology. These are GOD's facts.

The opening verse is a masterpiece of all literature. Countless volumes have been written about these ten words.

Where is another such statement?

Genesis is unique for its portrayal of beginnings. Everything we know had its start here.

The book is eclectic. Choosing to tell mainly of the history of one family, Abraham; one nation, Israel, it passes by the story of many nations.

Isaac (21-27) Jacob (25-36) Joseph (37-50)

5. OUTSTANDING TEACHINGS:

GOD had no beginning. He pre-existed all creation.

The fact of sin is a solemn reality. The entire human race is included in the Fall.

GOD is greatly concerned with man's redemption. His first act after the Fall was to provide coats of skins.

A horrible example of the depravity of man is the cold-blooded murder of Abel.

Mankind, left to himself for several thousand years, became so depraved there was no remedy left except death for all (Flood) and a new start with Noah.

The judgment of the Tower of Babel is a logical answer to the problem of where the nations of the world began.

The GOD of eternity found pleasure in the fellowship of a man made of earthy clay. Abraham became the "friend of GOD" on the basis of his faith (chapter 15).

Joseph is the Bible's greatest type of the coming SAVIOUR in more than 100 different analogies.

6. INTERESTING FEATURES:

Genesis 1:1 thoroughly refutes: atheism, pantheism, polytheism, materialism and agnosticism.

It is possible that 25 million people perished in the Flood. Genesis does not tell the date of creation.

7. KEY TO UNDERSTANDING:

Genesis is cold, sober fact. Read it and believe it at face value.
Recognize that all truth found later in the Bible has its roots here.

~ end of Genesis ~

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