

August 22, 2010

## **Before "The Beginning"**

### *Introduction to The Old Testament*

#### OTHER TITLES

- in Hebrew- "Torah, Prophets, and Writings" (TaNaKh)
- in Greek- "Septuagint" (LXX)
- in New Testament- "The Scriptures," "Moses & the Prophets" Luke 24:27, 44; Acts 18:27-28.



#### Why Study the Old Testament?

- John 5:39, 2 Cor 3:14
- St. Augustine- "The New Testament is hidden in the Old Testament, and the Old Testament is made clear in the New Testament"

#### What is a Testament?

Trace the importance of the covenant in the Bible.

Gen. 17:9 – Ex 24:8 (cf. Heb 9:19-20) – Deut 29:12-15 – Josh 24 – Jer 31:31-34  
Mark 14:24 – 1 Cor 11:25 – 2 Cor 3:6 – Heb 8

### *Introduction to the Torah*

Hebrew "Torah" means- Instruction

in Greek- "nomos" = Law (Ps 1:1-2; 19:7)

Author and Compiler = Moses (Mt 19:8; Mk 7:10, 12:26; Jn 7:19)

- Moses also used oral and written sources (cf. Luke 1:1-4)
  - + The Account of Adam (Gen 5:1)
  - + The Song of Miriam (Ex 15:20-21)
  - + Book of the Wars of the LORD (Num 21:14-15)
  - + The Song of the Well (Num 21:17-18)
  - + The Song of Heshbon (Num 21:27-30)
- Some copyists updated place names in the text (Gen 14:14, 36:31)

Difficulty of Hebrew Narrative- Circulation!

### *Introduction to Genesis*

Genesis is organized by ten statements, "These are the generations..."

Gen 2:4- "... of the Heavens and the Earth when they were created,"

Gen 5:1- "This is the Book of the Generations of Adam."

Gen 6:9- "... of Noah."

Gen 10:1- "... of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth."

Gen 11:10- "... of Shem."

Gen 11:27- "... of Terah."

Gen 25:12- "... of Ishmael, Abraham's son,"

Gen 25:19- "... of Isaac, Abraham's son"

Gen 36:1 & 9- "... of Esau (that is, Edom)... the father of the Edomites."

Gen 37:2- "... of Jacob."

cf. Exodus 1:1-5

## Outline and Crucial Chapters

- 1-11 Primeval History
  - 1-2 Creation
  - 3 Rebellion and Casting Out
    - 3:15 Proto-evangelium "First Gospel Promise"
  - 6-9 Noah/Flood
  - 11 Tower of Babel
- 12-50 Patriarchal Narratives
  - 12-26 Abraham & Isaac
    - 12 Abraham's Call
    - 14 Abraham and Melchizedek
    - 17 Abraham and the Covenant of Circumcision
    - 19 Sodom and Gomorrah
    - 22 Sacrifice of Isaac
  - 27-36 Jacob and Esau
    - 28 Jacob's Dream
  - 37-50 Joseph
    - 49 Jacob Blesses His Sons

Genesis 1-2 and Creation- **Five topics present in Gen 1-2** that are just as important, if not MORE important, than physical, material, 24 hour day, young earth creationism

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Genesis 1 – 11 and the "WHY" Questions**

*For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.*

*In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the  
mountains are his also.*

*The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.*

*Psa. 95:3-5*