

# 創世記總結

## 一、序論

### (一) 摩西五經與創世記

摩西五經是全本聖經的頭五卷書，是全部聖經的秧田，而創世記又是摩西五經的秧田。全部聖經都是從摩西五經發展出來的，摩西五經又都是從創世記發展出來的。摩西五經一共五本書，包括「創世記」、「出埃及記」、「利未記」、「民數記」與「申命記」。「創世記」是一切事物的來源，也是列祖的傳記；「出埃及記」加上「民數記」是說明曠野的經歷——浩大的救恩；「利未記」說明聖潔的生活和聖潔的事奉；「申命記」是誠命的重申。

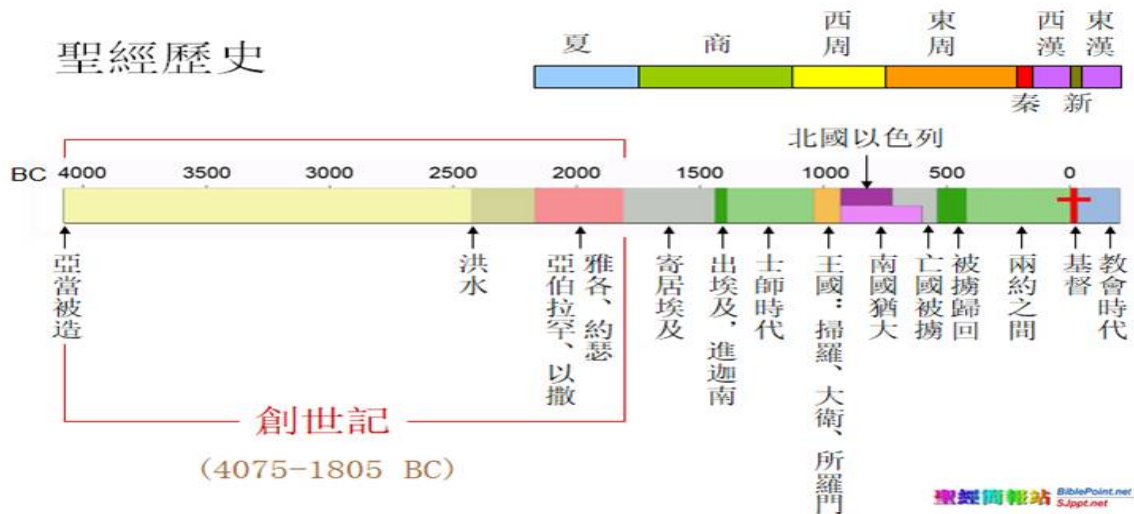
在希伯來正典中，“摩西五經”是一卷而非五卷，稱作“妥拉”(Torah)，猶太人的「妥拉」翻成英文變成「律法」。其實「妥拉」更重要的意思是「引導」或「教導」(instruction, guidance)，五經是富含教導、指導和指令的書卷。

### (二) 著者和寫作年代

摩西五經的作者是摩西，摩西是舊約時代的領袖，好像保羅是新約時代的領袖。摩西在舊約聖經裏被稱為「神人」，摩西也被稱為「神的朋友」，他是一個最認識神的人，他寫聖經的態度十分嚴謹，常說：「耶和華如此說」、「耶和華曉諭我」，不加一個字、不減一個字，忠心傳達神的話語，使我們完全相信摩西五經就是神的話語，並且人的智慧也絕無辦法寫出這一本屬天的書。

路 24:44 耶穌對他們說、這就是我從前與你們同在之時、所告訴你們的話、說、摩西的律法、先知的書、和詩篇上所記的、凡指著我的話、都必須應驗。45 於是耶穌開他們的心竅、使他們能明白聖經。摩西是大約主前1500~1400年的人物，而創世記內容所描述的時間，大約自主前4000年至主前1800年，前後共約二千三百年。摩西如何能知道在他多年以前的歷史呢？當是根據於他在西乃山上和曠野間從神那裏所得的啟示和曉諭。

徒 7:37-38 那曾對以色列人說、『神要從你們弟兄中間、給你們興起一位先知像我的、就是這位摩西。』38 這人曾在曠野會中、和西乃山上與那對他說話的天使同在、又與我們的祖宗同在、並且領受活潑的聖言傳給我們。



### (三) 創世記的重要

創世記是全部聖經的第一卷，也是聖經中最重要的一卷，聖經中一切真理的種子，都隱藏在《創世記》裡。它說到：關乎神自己的啟示，宇宙和萬物的來歷，神和人的關係，神拯救的計劃，基督的豫表，神帶領和成全古聖的經過，等等。可以說，聖經中每種主要的事實、真理、教訓和啟示，都胚胎在這卷書裏，是全部聖經的秧田。

聖經中「創世記」和「啟示錄」遙遙相對，這是兩本最重要的書，都是受魔鬼攻擊最厲害的書。「創世記」是一本說到諸事的起源，「啟示錄」是說到諸事的結束，這是兩本最寶貴的書。

新約聖經中主的僕人從他們所得的啟示中引用創世記的話達六十多次，我們的主也好幾次引用創世記的話：「耶穌回答說：『那起初造人的，是造男造女』，並且說：『因此，人要離開父母，與妻子連合，二人成為一體。』這經你們沒有念過嗎？既然如此，夫妻不再是兩個人，乃是一體的了。所以，神配合的，人不可分開。」（太十九 4~6）

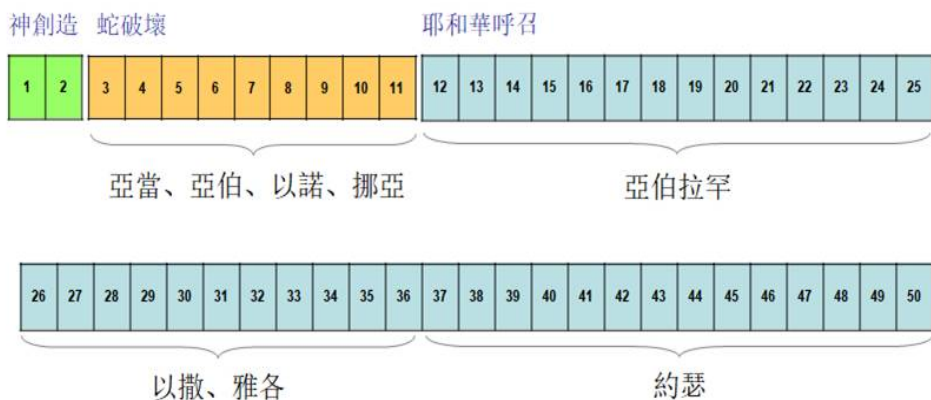
### (四) 書名和題目

本書的書名《創世記》(Genesis)，是希臘文《七十士譯本》所給的稱呼。希伯來文舊約聖經原無書名，猶太人慣於用各書開頭的第一個字來命名。本書第一章第一節的頭一個字是「起初」，故猶太人稱呼本書為「起初」。本書就是論到天地的起初、萬物的起初、人的起初、罪惡的起初、救贖的起初、宗教的起初、兇殺的起初、文化的起初、家譜的起初、世人被滅的起初、國家的起初、巴比倫的起初、神呼召的起初、信心和應許的起初、以色列人的起初、選民下埃及的起初。

創世記(Genesis)這個字意思即「原始」，「起初」。創世記書中所記的，事實上也是有關各種事物的開始。因此，我們給這本書的題目是：「開始」

### (五) 關乎基督的豫表

本書中雖然沒有一次直接題到我們的主，可是它裏面充滿了關乎基督的豫表，例如：亞當的沉睡(二 21~22)豫表基督十字架的死；皮子(三 21)、羊群中頭生的(四 4)、公羊(廿二 13)等，都豫表主為我們作代替的犧牲；方舟(六 14)豫表基督是人惟一的拯救；以撒豫表基督順服以至於死(廿二 1~10)；麥基洗德豫表基督是另一等次的祭司(十四 17~20)；約瑟(卅七至五十章)豫表主為父所愛，為弟兄所恨、所棄、所賣，後升為至高，成為弟兄的祝福和拯救，娶外邦新婦，等等。



## 二、分段

### (一) 人類的起源 (創一 1~十一 32)

1. 神的創造 (創一 1~二 25)
2. 人的墮落 (創三 1-24)
3. 該隱後代 (創四 1-26)

4. 塞特後代（創五 1-32）
5. 挪亞時代（創六 1~九 29）
6. 閃、含、雅弗後代（創十 1~十一 32）

## (二) 選民的源始（創十二 1~五十 26）

1. 亞伯拉罕事蹟（創十二 1~H 五 18）
2. 以撒事蹟（創廿五 19~廿八 9）
3. 雅各事蹟（創廿八 10~卅五 29）
4. 以掃後代（創卅六 1-43）
5. 約瑟事蹟（創卅七 1~四十五 28）
6. 雅各終年（創四十六 1~五十 26）

## 三、神的創造

### (一) 起初與太初

創 1:1 起初神創造天地。(in the beginning 起初有時間的起點)

約 1:1 太初有道、道與神同在、道就是神。(in beginning 太初沒有時間的起點)

### (二) 原初創造變成荒涼

1. 撒但墮落被摔在地上

賽 14:12-14 明亮之星、早晨之子阿、你何竟從天墜落、你這攻敗列國的、何竟被砍倒在地上。13 你心裏曾說、我要昇到天上、我要高舉我的寶座在神眾星以上、我要坐在聚會的山上、在北方的極處、14 我要昇到高雲之上、我要與至上者同等。

啟 12:9 大龍就是那古蛇、名叫魔鬼、又叫撒但、是迷惑普天下的、他被摔在地上、他的使者也一同被摔下去。

2. 地變成空虛混沌、淵面黑暗

創 1:2 地是(變成)空虛混沌、淵面黑暗。

神原初的創造因撒但魔鬼被摔在地上而變為荒涼，所有原始生物都被毀滅。這些事的年日究有多久，是我們所不知道的。

### (三) 神的復造

1. 神復造的憑藉：

#### (1) 神的靈(1:2節下)

創 1:2 神的靈運行(「伏印」、「覆卵」)在水面上。

#### (2) 神的話—「神說」(1:3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24, 26節)

創 1:3 神說、要有光、就有了光。

詩 33:9 因為他說有、就有、命立、就立。

2. 第一日的復造——分別光暗(1:3~5)
3. 第二日的復造——分別上下，造出穹蒼(1:6~8)
4. 第三日的復造——分別水地，造出植物(1:9~13)
5. 第四日的復造——派置天上的日、月、星等光體(1:14~19)

6. 第五日的復造——造出水中和空中各樣動物(1:20~23)

7. 第六日的復造——造出地上各樣動物和人(1:24~31)

創 1:31 神看著一切所造的都甚好·有晚上、有早晨、是第六日。

詩 19:1 [大衛的詩、交與伶長。] 諸天述說神的榮耀·穹蒼傳揚他的手段。

8. 第七日神歇下創造之工安息了(2:1~3)

創 2:2-3 到第七日、神造物的工已經完畢、就在第七日歇了他一切的工、安息了。3 神賜福給第七日、定為聖日、因為在這日神歇了他一切創造的工、就安息了。

路 6:5 又對他們說、人子是安息日的主。

#### 四、人的受造與墮落

創 2:7 耶和華神用地上的塵土造人、將生氣吹在他鼻孔裏、他就成了有靈的活人、名叫亞當。(土是惟一能接受種子且能使種子得著生長的材料。)

##### (一) 神造人的目的

1. 是為神自己的榮耀：

賽 43:7 就是凡稱為我名下的人、是我為自己的榮耀創造的、是我所作成、所造作的。

2. 與神相像並替神掌權：

創 1:26 神說、我們要照著我們的形像、按著我們的樣式造人、使他們管理海裏的魚、空中的鳥、地上的牲畜、和全地、並地上所爬的一切昆蟲。

創 1:27 神就照著自己的形像造人、乃是照著他的形像造男造女。

(1) 要照著我們(神)的形像 – 裡面的相像

(2) 要按著我們(神)的樣式 – 外面的相像

(3) 乃是照著「祂」的形像(主耶穌的形像)造男造女

羅 8:29 因為他豫先所知道的人、就豫先定下效法他兒子的模樣(image)、使他兒子在許多弟兄中作長子。

##### (二) 神為亞當造一個配偶(2:18~25)

1. 那人獨居不好 – 為亞當造一個配偶(符合物counter part)幫助他

創 2:18 耶和華神說、那人獨居不好、我要為他造一個配偶幫助他。

2. 取亞當的一條肋骨造成夏娃 – 由基督的復活生命產生教會

創 2:21-22 耶和華神使他沉睡、他就睡了·於是取下他的一條肋骨、又把肉合起來。22 耶和華神就用那人身上所取的肋骨、造成一個女人、領他到那人跟前。

女人是從男人產生的，說明教會是從基督產生的。骨頭是預表復活，使亞當沉睡取下一條肋骨造出女人，表明產生教會是藉著主的死和復活。

3. 基督和教會極大的奧祕

創 2:23-25 那人說、這是我骨中的骨、肉中的肉、可以稱他為女人、因為他是從男人身上取出來的。

24 因此、人要離開父母、與妻子連合、二人成為一體。25 當時夫妻二人、赤身露體、並不羞恥。

弗 5:31-32 為這個緣故、人要離開父母、與妻子連合、二人成為一體。32 這是極大的奧祕、但我是指著基督和教會說的。

##### (三) 神旨意在人身上的失落

### 1. 蛇向女人引誘(3:1~5)

創 3:1-3 耶和華神所造的、惟有蛇比田野一切的活物更狡猾。蛇對女人說、神豈是真說、不許你們喫園中所有樹上的果子麼。2 女人對蛇說、園中樹上的果子我們可以喫。3 惟有園當中那棵樹上的果子、神曾說、你們不可喫、也不可摸、免得你們死。

創 3:4-5 蛇對女人說、你們不一定死、5 因為神知道、你們喫的日子眼睛就明亮了、你們便如神能知道善惡。

### 2. 二人吃了分別善惡樹上的果子(3:6)

創 3:6 於是女人見那棵樹的果子好作食物、也悅人的眼目、且是可喜愛的、能使人有智慧、就摘下果子來喫了、又給他丈夫、他丈夫也喫了。

## (四) 二人違背神吩咐的後果

### 1. 眼睛立即明亮，知道自己是赤身露體(3:7)

創 3:7 他們二人的眼睛就明亮了、纔知道自己是赤身露體、便拿無花果樹的葉子、為自己編作裙子。

### 2. 躲避神的面(3:8~13)

創 3:8-10 天起了涼風、耶和華神在園中行走。那人和他妻子聽見神的聲音、就藏在園裏的樹木中、躲避耶和華神的面。9 耶和華神呼喚那人、對他說、你在那裏。10 他說、我在園中聽見你的聲音、我就害怕、因為我赤身露體。我便藏了。

### 3. 神對蛇的判決(3:14~15)

創 3:14-15 耶和華神對蛇說、你既作了這事、就必受咒詛、比一切的牲畜野獸更甚、你必用肚子行走、終身喫土。15 我又要叫你和女人彼此為仇、你的後裔和女人的後裔、也彼此為仇。女人的後裔要傷你的頭、你要傷他的腳跟。(蛇終身喫土一人成了撒但的糧食)

### 4. 神對女人的判決(3:16)

創 3:16 又對女人說、我必多多加增你懷胎的苦楚、你生產兒女必多受苦楚。你必戀慕你丈夫、你丈夫必管轄你。

### 5. 神對男人的判決(3:17~19)

創 3:17-19 又對亞當說、你既聽從妻子的話、喫了我所吩咐你不可喫的那樹上的果子、地必為你的緣故受咒詛。你必終身勞苦、纔能從地裏得喫的。18 地必給你長出荊棘和蒺藜來你也要喫田間的菜蔬。19 你必汗流滿面纔得糊口、直到你歸了土、因為你是從土而出的。你本是塵土、仍要歸於塵土。

### 6. 判決中的恩典(3:20~21)

創 3:21 耶和華神為亞當和他妻子用皮子作衣服、給他們穿。(皮子講到必須要有生命犧牲流血)

### 7. 被趕出伊甸園(3:22~24)

創 3:22-24 耶和華神說、那人已經與我們相似、能知道善惡。現在恐怕他伸手又摘生命樹的果子喫、就永遠活著。23 耶和華神便打發他出伊甸園去、耕種他所自出之土。24 於是把他趕出去了。又在伊甸園的東邊安設基路伯、和四面轉動發火燄的劍、要把守生命樹的道路。

人在神面前失敗了，但神的計劃不能受阻撓。於是差祂兒子來作人，就是基督耶穌，祂是完全的人，祂完全符合神對人的旨意。神對方法沒有興趣，神對理論沒有興趣——祂的興趣是在人身上。因此，聖經的第一卷書是一本傳記的書。下面我們一同來看創世記中的人物(史弟兄系列信息美麗的雲彩)：

## 五、由創世記的人物認識神的旨意(四至十一章)

### (一) 亞伯——雖然死了仍舊說話

來 11:4 亞伯因著信獻祭與神、比該隱所獻的更美、因此便得了稱義的見證、就是神指他禮物作的見證。他雖然死了、卻因這信仍舊說話。

創 4:1-2 有一日、那人和他妻子夏娃同房、夏娃就懷孕、生了該隱、〔就是得的意思〕便說、耶和華使我得了一個男子。2 又生了該隱的兄弟亞伯。亞伯是牧羊的、該隱是種地的。

創 4:3-5 有一日、該隱拿地裏的出產為供物獻給耶和華。4 亞伯也將他羊群中頭生的、和羊的脂油獻上。耶和華看中了亞伯和他的供物。5 只是看不中該隱和他的供物。該隱就大大的發怒、變了臉色。

創 4:8 該隱與他兄弟亞伯說話、二人正在田間、該隱起來打他兄弟亞伯、把他殺了。

太 23:35 叫世上所流義人的血、都歸到你們身上。從義人亞伯的血起、直到你們在殿和壇中間所殺的巴拉加的兒子撒迦利亞的血為止。

1. 雖然死了仍舊說話——他是一個得著復活憑據的人
2. 他是第一個看見啟示而以羔羊為他一切的人  
——是他的生命、他的工作、他的人生意義、他的盼望寄託、他追求的目標
3. 他是第一個因信獻祭的人——更美的祭物
  - (1) 他站在墮落罪人的地位，而活在神的神聖光中
  - (2) 以羔羊為祭——靠著寶血才能因信得了稱義的見證
  - (3) 因著耶穌而來到神面前
4. 他是第一個因信稱義的人——神驗中了他的祭物
  - (1) 羔羊是他的生命，這是何等美麗的羔羊生命——從未說到一句話
  - (2) 生活——追求——蒙神悅納——直到該隱起來打他、殺他，沒有留下一點聲音
5. 他是第一個得神為他作見證的人

## (二) 以諾——與神同行

創 5:21-24 以諾活到六十五歲、生了瑪土撒拉。22 以諾生瑪土撒拉之後、與神同行三百年、並且生兒養女。23 以諾共活了三百六十五歲。24 以諾與神同行、神將他取去、他就不在世了。

猶 14 亞當的七世孫以諾、曾豫言這些人說、看哪、主帶著他的千萬聖者降臨、

來 11:5-6 以諾因著信被接去、不至於見死。人也找不著他、因為神已經把他接去了。只是他被接去以先、已經得了神喜悅他的明證。6 人非有信、就不能得神的喜悅。因為到神面前來的人、必須信有神、且信他賞賜那尋求他的人。

1. 以諾與神同行的原因
  - (1) 當以諾在 65 歲時，生了一個兒子——那時神給他一個啟示  
——神的審判在一定的時刻必定臨到這個世界。瑪土撒拉一到他死的時候，那件事必要發生，969 歲——活得最長得一個人，他死的時候，洪水的審判就來了，毀滅當時的世界。
  - (2) 他更看見了主再來的榮耀異象——看哪！主帶著祂千萬聖者降臨
2. 偉大的與神同行的生命
  - (1) 同行三百年生兒養女，就在最真實的生活中與神同行
  - (2) 所有屬靈的人一定是一個與神同行的人，但他是第一個見證人
  - (3) 長期與神同行——最深的認識，最親密的朋友，最像神的伴侶
3. 神喜悅他，把他取去——第一個被提的見證人，人也找不著他了

### (三) 挪亞——住在基督裏

來 11:7 挪亞因著信、既蒙神指示他未見的事、動了敬畏的心、豫備了一隻方舟、使他全家得救、因此就定了那世代的罪、自己也承受了那從信而來的義。

彼後 2:5 神也沒有寬容上古的世代、曾叫洪水臨到那不敬虔的世代、卻保護了傳義道的挪亞一家八口。

創 6:12 神觀看世界、見是敗壞了、凡有血氣的人、在地上都敗壞了行為。13 神就對挪亞說、凡有血氣的人、他的盡頭已經來到我面前、因為地上滿了他們的強暴、我要把他們和地一併毀滅。14 你要用歌斐木造一隻方舟、分一間一間的造、裏外抹上松香。15 方舟的造法乃是這樣、要長三百肘、寬五十肘、高三十肘。16 方舟上邊要留透光處、高一肘、方舟的門要開在旁邊、方舟要分上中下三層。太 24:37-39 挪亞的日子怎樣、人子降臨也要怎樣。38 當洪水以前的日子、人照常喫喝嫁娶、直到挪亞進方舟的那日、39 不知不覺洪水來了、把他們全都沖去、人子降臨也要這樣。

#### 1. 挪亞的日子與人子的日子

##### (1) 偉大的見證人——挪亞

一作見證、傳義道的人；與屬靈生命有關——住在基督裏；與迎接、預備主的再來有關

##### (2) 挪亞的時代

——是人竭力追求物質享受的時代——又吃又喝；又買又賣；又耕種又蓋造——是一個商業行為高度發達的時代；又娶又嫁——看起來十分正常平安穩妥的時代；是一個罪惡掌權的時代，神審判臨到

#### 2. 造方舟又傳義道

##### (1) 造方舟——極力追求建立屬靈的神聖生命——「住在基督裏」

##### (2) 傳義道——極力向沉淪的罪人傳福音

#### 3. 「住在基督裏」的見證人

##### (1) 透光處——看見天、看見光、看見主，而與主交通，吸取主的豐盛

##### (2) 住在主裏面——改變我們的生命

##### (3) 勝過世界、死亡與審判的見證

#### 4. 優越的生命和優越的記號——烏鴉與鴿子

##### (1) 烏鴉的生命——到處可以找到死亡，停留在世界裏

創 8:7 放出一隻烏鴉去、那烏鴉飛來飛去、直到地上的水都乾了。

##### (2) 鴿子的生命

——找不著落腳之地——這世界到處是死亡，找不到停留安息的地方，必定回到主裏面；叼著一個新擰下來的橄欖葉子——聖靈的記號與新生命的記號

創 8:8-9 他又放出一隻鴿子去、要看看水從地上退了沒有。9 但遍地上都是水、鴿子找不著落腳之地、就回到方舟挪亞那裏、挪亞伸手把鴿子接進方舟來。

#### 5. 美麗的虹的記號——神是信實的記號

創 9:12-13 神說、我與你們、並你們這裏的各樣活物所立的永約、是有記號的。13 我把虹放在雲彩中、這就可作我與地立約的記號了。

## 六、由創世記的列祖認識神的旨意（十二至十五章）

## (一) 亞伯拉罕—信心的見證人

### 1. 第一個看見異象而蒙召的人

來 11:8 -10 亞伯拉罕因著信、蒙召的時候、就遵命出去、往將來要得為業的地方去、出去的時候、還不知往那裏去。9 他因著信、就在所應許之地作客、好像在異地居住帳棚、與那同蒙一個應許的以撒、雅各一樣。10 因為他等候那座有根基的城、就是神所經營所建造的。

#### (1) 因著信，蒙召的時候就遵命出去

- 榮耀的神向他顯現—他已從這一個世界和世界一切事物中出去了
- 往將來要得為業的地方去—他屬靈生命開始的第一步，成為他一生的目標
- 出去的時候，還不知往哪裏去—只有一個固定的方向—屬天家鄉

#### (2) 因著信、就在所應許之地作客

- 第一個客旅寄居者—在這世界為客旅—往榮耀目標的行走者
- 第一個住帳棚的人—不在地上扎根，隨時可以遵命行動；客旅的記號
- 第一個築祭壇的人—絕對屬於神、滿足神、榮耀神—從十架到聖城的路

#### (3) 等候那座有根基的城—看見神獨一的異象，終極的目的

### 2. 因信稱義

創 15:5-6 於是領他走到外邊、說、你向天觀看、數算眾星、能數得過來麼、又對他說、你的後裔將要如此。6 亞伯蘭信耶和華、耶和華就以此為他的義。

羅 4:3-5 經上說甚麼呢、說、『亞伯拉罕信神、這就算為他的義。』4 作工的得工價、不算恩典、乃是該得的、5 惟有不作工的、只信稱罪人為義的神、他的信就算為義。

羅 4:16-17 所以人得為後嗣是本乎信、因此就屬乎恩、叫應許定然歸給一切後裔、不但歸給那屬乎律法的、也歸給那效法亞伯拉罕之信的。17 亞伯拉罕所信的、是那叫死人復活使無變為有的神、他在主面前作我們世人的父、如經上所記、『我已經立你作多國的父。』

### 3. 因信獻以撒 (創 22:1-18)

創 22:1-2 這些事以後、神要試驗亞伯拉罕、就呼叫他說、亞伯拉罕、他說、我在這裏。2 神說、你帶著你的兒子、就是你獨生的兒子、你所愛的以撒、往摩利亞地去、在我所要指示你的山上、把他獻為燔祭。

來 11:17-19 亞伯拉罕因著信、被試驗的時候、就把以撒獻上、這便是那歡喜領受應許的、將自己獨生的兒子獻上。18 論到這兒子曾有話說、『從以撒生的纔要稱為你的後裔。』19 他以為神還能叫人從死裏復活、他也彷彿從死中得回他的兒子來。

## (二) 以撒—承受的生命

加 3:16 所應許的原是向亞伯拉罕和他子孫說的、神並不是說眾子孫、指著許多人、乃是說你那一個子孫、指著一個人、就是基督。

來 11:20 以撒因著信、就指著將來的事、給雅各、以掃祝福。

### 1. 承受神兒子的永遠生命

- (1) 從天上生，這一個生命已經承受了天上一切福分
- (2) 神生命一切豐滿都在這一個永遠生命裏面
- (3) 歡笑、喜樂滿溢

### 2. 承受父家一切產業—代表以撒的經歷



創 21:10 就對亞伯拉罕說、你把這使女、和他兒子趕出去、因為這使女的兒子、不可與我的兒子以撒、一同承受產業。

加 4:30 然而經上是怎麼說的呢·是說、『把使女和他兒子趕出去·因為使女的兒子、不可與自主婦人的兒子一同承受產業。』

創 25:5 亞伯拉罕將一切所有的都給了以撒。

### 3. 承受聖靈活水泉源

創 26:18 當他父親亞伯拉罕在世之日所挖的水井、因非利士人在亞伯拉罕死後塞住了、以撒就重新挖出來、仍照他父親所叫的、叫那些井的名字。

- (1) 埃色泉源—爭競的泉源
- (2) 西提拿泉源—為敵的泉源
- (3) 利河伯泉源—寬闊的泉源
- (4) 別是巴泉源—立約的泉源
- (5) 示巴泉源—起誓的泉源

### (三) 雅各—雕刻的生命

來 11:21 雅各因著信、臨死的時候、給約瑟的兩個兒子各自祝福、扶著杖頭敬拜神。

#### 1. 雅各(意即抓住和欺騙)是一個非常摻雜的人

(1) 天然生命的強勁和屬靈生命的強勁—要長子名分，要屬靈的祝福

(2) 神在他身上兩條線的工作—對付他的天然生命，滿足他的屬靈生命，在他一生路上，充滿了啟示和經歷(明顯突出的兩條線)

#### 2. 巴旦亞蘭曠野的異象—伯特利(神的家)的偉大啟示

創 28:10-13 雅各出了別是巴向哈蘭走去。11 到了一個地方、因為太陽落了、就在那裏住宿·便拾起那地方的一塊石頭、枕在頭下、在那裏躺臥睡了。12 夢見一個梯子立在地上、梯子的頭頂著天、有神的使者在梯子上、上去下來。13 耶和華站在梯子以上、說、我是耶和華你祖亞伯拉罕的神、也是以撒的神、我要將你現在所躺臥之地賜給你、和你的後裔·

創 28:19 他就給那地方起名、叫伯特利·〔就是神殿的意思〕。

#### 3. 毗努伊勒的經歷—生命的更換—從雅各變成以色列

創 32:24-25 只剩下雅各一人·有一個人來和他摔跤、直到黎明。25 那人見自己勝不過他、就將他的大腿窩摸了一把、雅各的大腿窩、正在摔跤的時候就扭了。

創 32:28 那人說、你的名不要再叫雅各、要叫以色列、因為你與神與人較力、都得了勝。(以色列-在神面前為君王，與神一同治理)

創 32:30 雅各便給那地方起名叫毗努伊勒。〔就是神之面的意思〕意思說、我面對面見了神、我的性命仍得保全。

#### 4. 神剝奪的手繼續在雅各身上工作

創 47:9 雅各對法老說、我寄居在世的年日是一百三十歲、我平生的年日又少、又苦、不及我列祖早在此世寄居的年日。

### (四) 約瑟—像子并掌權的生命

創 49:22-26 約瑟是多結果子的樹枝、是泉旁多結果的枝子、他的枝條探出牆外。23 弓箭手將他苦害、向他射箭、逼迫他。24 但他的弓仍舊堅硬、他的手健壯敏捷。這是因以色列的牧者、以色列的磐石、就是雅各的大能者。25 你父親的神、必幫助你、那全能者、必將天上所有的福、地裏所藏的福、以及生產乳養的福、都賜給你。26 你父親所祝的福、勝過我祖先所祝的福、如永世的山嶺、至極的邊界、這些福必降在約瑟的頭上、臨到那與弟兄迥別之人的頂上。

1. 像子的生命是神手的工作，是神手的傑作

詩 105:17-22 在他們以先打發一個人去。約瑟被賣為奴僕。18 人用腳鏢傷他的腳。他被鐵鍊捆拘。19 耶和華的話試煉他、直等到他所說的應驗了。20 王打發人把他解開、就是治理眾民的、把他釋放。21 立他作王家之主、掌管他一切所有的。22 使他隨意捆綁他的臣宰、將智慧教導他的長老。

創 50:20 從前你們的意思是要害我、但神的意思原是好的、要保全許多人的性命、成就今日的光景。

2. 雅各與約瑟的榮耀結局—為骸骨留下遺命

來 11:22 約瑟因著信、臨終的時候、提到以色列族將來要出埃及並為自己的骸骨留下遺命。

骨頭是復活的表號，肉身死在地上所預表的世界裏，卻要復活在迦南所預表的榮耀的基督裏。

## 七、結語

創世記是聖經的首卷，也是最重要的一卷，它啟示天地萬物的來歷、人類犯罪墮落的經過、神救贖計畫的預告、古聖徒被神揀選和帶領的歷史，而且聖經中一切重要的真理，無不隱藏在創世記內，因而被稱為「種子書」。本書與啟示錄前後呼應、首末相接、有始有終。書中講到八個代表人物，即亞當、亞伯、以諾、挪亞、亞伯拉罕、以撒、雅各、約瑟等，均有重要的屬靈意義。

創世記也是神愛人的記錄：起初記載神創造的愛，將人安置在樂園，賜生命樹、造配偶，人背叛墮落，但神仍愛護備至，並賜女人後裔，又預備皮衣穿，本書處處顯示，那要來的基督是墮落之人的指望和拯救。縱然降下洪水，仍造方舟救人，且立虹為約。以後更對選民更有無微不至的眷顧，賜後裔，應許美地，備羔羊代替獨子之愛；降天梯，一生牧養之恩；下埃及，保全性命生養眾多之福。

## The Conclusion of Genesis

### I. Introduction

#### (1) The Pentateuch and Genesis

The Pentateuch is the first five books of the entire Bible and is the seedbed of the entire Bible, and Genesis is the seedbed of the Pentateuch. The entire Bible developed from the Pentateuch, and the Pentateuch developed from Genesis. The Pentateuch consists of five books, including “Genesis,” “Exodus,” “Leviticus,” “Numbers,” and “Deuteronomy.” “Genesis” is the source of all things and also the biography of the patriarchs; “Exodus” plus “Numbers” explains the experience of the wilderness—a great salvation; “Leviticus” explains holy living and holy service; “Deuteronomy” is a reiteration of commandments.

In the Hebrew canon, “Pentateuch” is one volume instead of five volumes, called “Torah,” which is translated into English as “Law” by Jews. In fact, the more important meaning of “Torah” is “guidance” and “instruction,” and the Pentateuch is a book rich in teaching, guidance, instruction, and commandments.

#### (2) Author and Writing Date

The author of the Pentateuch is Moses. Moses was a leader in the Old Testament era, like Paul was a leader in the New Testament era. Moses is called a “man of God” in the Old Testament Bible and is also called “God’s friend.” He is the person who knows God best. His attitude towards writing the Bible is very rigorous. He often says, “Thus saith the Lord” and “The Lord hath spoken unto me.” He faithfully conveys God’s words so that we can completely believe that the Pentateuch is God’s word. Human wisdom has no way to write this book belonging to heaven.

Luke 24:44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

Moses was a figure around 1500-1400 BC. The time described in this book is approximately from 4000 BC to 1800 BC, a total of about 2,300 years. How could Moses know about history many years before him? It was based on revelations and instructions he received from God on Mount Sinai and in the wilderness.

Acts 7:37 "This is that Moses who told the Israelites, 'God will send you a prophet like me from your own people. 38 'He was in the assembly in the desert, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers; and he received living words to pass on to us.

#### (3) The Importance of Genesis

Genesis is the first volume of the entire Bible and also the most important volume in the Bible. It talks about: God’s own revelation, the origin of the universe and all things, the relationship between God and man, God’s plan of salvation, Christ’s foreshadowing, God’s leading and dealing with ancient saints, etc. It can be said that every major fact, truth, teaching, and revelation in the Bible is embryonic in this volume. It is the seedbed of the entire Bible.

The “Book of Genesis” in the Bible and “Revelation” are relatively opposite. These are the two most important books and are also the books that are most severely attacked by Satan. “Genesis” is a book that talks about the origin of all things. “Revelation” talks about the end of all things. These are two precious books.

The Lord’s servants in the New Testament quoted from Genesis more than sixty times from revelations they received. Our Lord also quoted from Genesis several times: “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” (Matthew 19:4-6)

#### (4) Book Title and Title

The title of this book “Genesis” is the name given by the Greek Septuagint. The Hebrew Old Testament Bible originally had no title, and Jews were accustomed to naming each book after the first word at the

beginning of each book. The first word of the first verse of this book is “In the beginning,” so Jews call this book “In the beginning.” This book is about the beginning of heaven and earth, all things, man, sin, redemption, religion, murder, culture, genealogy, the destruction of mankind, the beginning of nations, the beginning of Babylon, God’s calling, faith and promise, Israel’s beginning, and the beginning of God’s chosen people.

The word “Genesis” means “original” or “beginning.” Therefore, we give this book the title: “Beginning.”

### **(5) Foreshadowing of Christ**

Although this book does not directly mention our Lord, it is full of foreshadowing of Christ. For example: Adam’s sleep (2:21-22) foreshadows Christ’s death on the cross; skins (3:21), the firstborn of the flock (4:4), and rams (22:13) all foreshadow Christ’s sacrifice for us; the ark (6:14) foreshadows that Christ is the only salvation for man; Isaac foreshadows Christ’s obedience even unto death (22:1-10); Melchizedek foreshadows that Christ is a priest of another order (14:17-20); Joseph (chapters 37-50) foreshadows that Christ was loved by the Father, hated, rejected, and sold by his brothers, later exalted to the highest place, became a blessing and salvation for his brothers, married a Gentile bride, etc.

## **II. Segmentation**

### **(1) The Origin of Mankind (Genesis 1-11)**

1. God’s Creation (Genesis 1-2)
2. The Fall of Man (Genesis 3)
3. Cain’s Descendants (Genesis 4:1-26)
4. Seth’s Descendants (Genesis 5:1-32)
5. Noah’s Time (Genesis 6:1-9:29)
6. Shem, Ham, and Japheth’s Descendants (Genesis 10:1-11:32)

### **(2) The Beginning of God’s Chosen People (Genesis 12:1-50:26)**

1. Abraham’s Life (Genesis 12:1-25:18)
2. Isaac’s Life (Genesis 25:19-28:9)
3. Jacob’s Life (Genesis 28:10-35:29)
4. Esau’s Descendants (Genesis 36:1-43)
5. Joseph’s Life (Genesis 37:1-45:28)
6. Jacob’s Last Years (Genesis 46:1-50:26)

## **III. The Creation of God**

### **(1) In the beginning and In beginning**

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Joh 1:1 In beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

### **(2) The Original Creation Becomes Desolate**

1. Satan’s fall and being cast down to earth

Isa 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! 13 You said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. 14 I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."

Rev 12:9 The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

2. The earth became formless and void

Gen 1:2 Now the earth was (became) formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep.

### **(3) God's Restoration**

1. The basis for God's restoration

Gen 1:2 The Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Gen 1:3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

2. Restoration on the first day - Separation of light and darkness (1:3-5)

3. Restoration on the second day - Separation of the waters above and below; creation of the firmament (1:6-8)

4. Restoration on the third day - Separation of water and land; creation of plants (1:9-13)

5. Restoration on the fourth day - Placement of celestial bodies in the sky (1:14-19)

6. Restoration on the fifth day - Creation of sea and air creatures (1:20-23)

7. Restoration on the sixth day - Creation of land animals and man (1:24-31)

8. On the seventh day, God rested from His work of creation (2:1-3)

Luke 6:5 Then Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."

## **IV. The Creation and Fall of Man**

Gen 2:7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. (Soil is the only material that can receive seeds and make them grow.)

### **(1) God's Purpose in Creating Man**

1. For God's own glory

Isa 43:7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

2. To be like God and rule for God

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

### **(2) God Creates a Companion for Adam**

1. It is not good for man to be alone - create a companion (counterpart) to help him

Gen 2:18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

2. Take one of Adam's ribs to make Eve - the church is produced by Christ's resurrection life

Gen 2:21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

Woman was produced from man, indicating that the church was produced from Christ. Bones foreshadow resurrection. By putting Adam to sleep and taking one of his ribs to make woman, it shows that the church is produced by the death and resurrection of Christ.

3. The Great Mystery of Christ and the Church

Gen 2:23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." 24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. 25 The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Eph 5:31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery--but I am talking about Christ and the church.

### **(3) The Loss of God's Will for Man**

#### 1. The serpent tempted the woman (3:1-5)

Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

Gen 3:4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 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."

#### 2. Both ate fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil

Gen 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

### **(4) Consequences of Disobeying God's Commandments**

#### 1. Their eyes were immediately opened, and they knew they were naked (3:7)

Gen 3:7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

#### 2. They hid from God's face (3:8-13)

Gen 3:8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

#### 3. God's judgment on the serpent (3:14-15)

Gen 3:14 So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

#### 4. God's judgment on the woman (3:16)

Gen 3:16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

#### 5. God's judgment on man (3:17-19)

Gen 3:17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it, "'Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

#### 6. Grace in Judgment (3:20-21)

Gen 3:21 The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. (Skins indicate that there must be life sacrifice and bloodshed.)

#### 7. They were driven out of Eden (3:22-24)

Gen 3:22 And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." 23 So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

*Man failed before God, but God's plan could not be thwarted. So He sent His Son to become man, that is, Christ Jesus. He was a perfect man who perfectly fulfilled God's will for man. God is not interested in methods or theories - He is interested in man. Therefore, the first volume of the Bible is a biography. Let's take a look at the characters in Genesis together (Beautiful Clouds of Brother Sze's Series Information):*

## **V. Understanding God's Will Through the Characters in Genesis (Chapters 4-11)**

### **(1) Abel - Though Dead, He Still Speaks**

Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead.

Gen 4:1 Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man." 2 Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil.

Gen 4:3 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. 4 But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, 5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

Gen 4:8 Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." ""And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

Mat 23:35 And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

1. Though dead, he still speaks - he is a person who has evidence of resurrection
2. He was the first person to see the revelation and take the Lamb as everything for him
3. He was the first person to offer a sacrifice by faith - a more beautiful sacrifice
4. He was the first person to be justified by faith - God approved of his sacrifice
5. He was the first person to have God testify for him

### **(2) Enoch - Walking with God**

Gen 5:21 When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. 22 And after he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. 23 Altogether, Enoch lived 365 years. 24 Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

Jud 14 Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: "See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones

Heb 11:5 By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. 6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

1. The reason Enoch walked with God
2. A Great Life Walking with God
3. God was pleased with him and took him away - the first witness to be taken away; no one could find him anymore.

### **(3) Noah - Living in Christ**

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

2Pe 2:5 if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others;

Gen 6:12 God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways.

13 So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. 14 So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. 15 This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. 16 Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks.

Mat 24:37 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; 39 and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

1. Noah's Days and Those of the Son of Man
2. Building an Ark and Preaching the Gospel
3. Witness Living in Christ
4. Superior Life and Superior Sign - Raven and Dove

## **VI. Understanding God's Will Through the Patriarchs in Genesis (Chapters 12-50)**

### **(1) Abraham - Witness of Faith**

1. The first person to be called after seeing a vision

Heb 11:8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. 9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

2. Justified by faith

Gen 15:5 He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars--if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." 6 Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Rom 4:3 What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." 4 Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. 5 However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.

Rom 4:16 Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring--not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. 17 As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed--the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.

3. Offered Isaac by faith (Genesis 22:1-18)

Gen 22:1 Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. 2 Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

Heb 11:17 By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, 18 even though God had said to him, "It is through



Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." 19 Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

## **(2) Isaac - Inheriting Life**

Gal 3:16 The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ.

Heb 11:20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

1. Inheriting eternal life as God's son
2. Inheriting all the Father's possessions - representing Isaac's experience.

Gen 21:10 and she said to Abraham, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac."

Gal 4:30 But what does the Scripture say? "Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son."

Gen 25:5 Abraham left everything he owned to Isaac.

3. Inheriting the living water source of the Holy Spirit

Gen 26:18 Isaac reopened the wells that had been dug in the time of his father Abraham, which the Philistines had stopped up after Abraham died, and he gave them the same names his father had given them.

## **(3) Jacob - Sculpted Life**

Heb 11:21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

1. Jacob (meaning "grabbing and deceiving") is a very mixed person.
2. Vision in Bethel in the wilderness of Padan-Aram - great revelation of Bethel (God's house).

Gen 28:10 Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. 11 When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. 12 He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying.

Gen 28:19 He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

3. Experience in Peniel - change of life - from Jacob to Israel.

Gen 32:24 So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. 25 When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man.

Gen 32:28 Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."

Gen 32:30 So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."

4. God's depriving hand continues to work on Jacob.

Gen 47:9 And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty. My years have been few and difficult, and they do not equal the years of the pilgrimage of my fathers."

## **(4) Joseph - Life Like a Son and Ruling**

Gen 49:22 "Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall. 23 With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility. 24 But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber, because of the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel, 25 because of your father's God, who helps you, because of the Almighty, who blesses you with

blessings of the heavens above, blessings of the deep that lies below, blessings of the breast and womb. 26 Your father's blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.

1. The life of a son is the work of God's hand and His masterpiece.

Psa 105:17 and he sent a man before them-- Joseph, sold as a slave. 18 They bruised his feet with shackles, his neck was put in irons, 19 till what he foretold came to pass, till the word of the LORD proved him true. 20 The king sent and released him, the ruler of peoples set him free. 21 He made him master of his household, ruler over all he possessed, 22 to instruct his princes as he pleased and teach his elders wisdom. Gen 50:20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

2. Glorious ending for Jacob and Joseph - leaving instructions for bones.

Heb 11:22 By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions about his bones.

*Bones are a sign of resurrection. Although the flesh dies in the world it represents on earth, it will be resurrected in Christ, who represents the glory of Canaan.*

## VI. Conclusion

Genesis is the first and most important volume of the Bible. It reveals the origin of everything in heaven and earth, the history of man's fall into sin, God's plan of salvation, and the history of God's leading and dealing with ancient saints. Every important truth in the Bible is hidden in Genesis, which is why it is called the "seed book." This book echoes Revelation before and after, with a beginning and an end. The book talks about eight representative figures: Adam, Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. All have important spiritual significance. Genesis is also a record of God's love for man: it records God's love for man at the beginning of creation when He placed man in the Garden of Eden and gave him the tree of life and a spouse. When man fell into sin, God still loved him and provided a descendant for woman and prepared leather clothing for them. The book shows that Christ who was to come is the hope and salvation of fallen man. Even though there was a flood, God still built an ark to save people and established a rainbow as a covenant. Later on, He showed even more care for His chosen people by giving them descendants, promising them a beautiful land, giving them His love by sacrificing His only Son for them like a lamb instead of His firstborn son. He also descended from heaven to earth to shepherd them throughout their lives. He led them out of Egypt and blessed them after their suffering.