

BIBLE HISTORY I
GENESIS TO JOSHUA

I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. This Period Of Bible History Covers Several Thousand Years Of Human History As God Begins Unfolding His Plan Of Redemption.
- B. This Lesson Attempts Only To Correlate The Main Points Of This History In A Chronological Order To Enable The Student To Have An Awareness Of Old Testament History.

NOTE: It is the writer's hope that this sketch of history will motivate the student to a more detailed and deeper study of this section of God's word!

II. AIM.

- A. To Show, In Its Development, The Connection Of The Old Testament To The New Testament.
- B. To Acquaint The Student With A Memorable, Working Knowledge Of This Period Of History.
 - 1. This period of history will, first of all, be viewed generically - *the entire section scoped.*
 - 2. Then this period of history will be noted specifically - *each book in the section will be noted.*

NOTE: The student is encouraged to commit the following facts to memory.

III. OUTLINE.

A. THE PERIOD VIEWED GENERICALLY.

- 1. Adam to Noah. (*Gen. 1 - 5*)
 - a. *Time covered: +4400(?) - 2700 B.C. = 1700 years.*
 - b. *Events considered: The Creation and the Fall.*

2. *Noah to Abram. (Gen. 6 - 11)*
 - a. *Time covered: 2700 - 2200 B.C. = 500 years.*
 - b. *Events considered: The Flood and the Tower of Babel.*
3. *Abraham, Isaac, Jacob to Joseph. (Gen. 12 - 36)*
 - a. *Time covered: 2200 - 1900 B.C. = 300 years.*
 - b. *Events considered: The Promise and the Twelve Sons of Jacob.*
4. *Joseph to Moses. (Gen. 37 - 50)*
 - a. *Time covered: 1900 - 1465 B.C. = 435 years.*
 - b. *Events considered: Joseph in Egypt and Israel in Bondage.*
5. *Moses to Joshua. (Ex. 1 - Deut. 34)*
 - a. *Time covered: 1465 - 1425 B.C. = 40 years.*
 - b. *Events considered: The Exodus, the Law, Tabernacle and Sacrifices, the Wanderings, Moab Covenant, Numbering of the People and Repeating of the Law to Second Generation.*
6. *Joshua. (Josh. 1 - 24)*
 - a. *Time covered: 1425 - 1400 B.C. = 25 years.*
 - b. *Events considered: Conquering the Land of Promise; Dividing the Promised Land for Possession.*

NOTE: All dates should only be considered as a reference point, not precise date.

B. THE PERIOD VIEWED SPECIFICALLY.

1. *The book of Genesis.*
 - a. *Theme: The record of early generations.*
 - b. *Purpose: To survey the history of God's revelation from the beginning until the family of Jacob (i.e. Israel) is in Egypt; declaring man's need for salvation by Jehovah.*

c. *Outline.*

I. Great Historical Events. (1 - 11)

A. The Creation

B. The Fall

C. The Flood.

D. The Tower of Babel.

II. Great Historical Men. (12 - 50)

A. Abraham.

B. Isaac.

C. Jacob.

D. Joseph.

d. *Facts.*

1) The Creation.

2) The Fall.

3) The Flood.

4) The Promise to Abraham.

5) The Descent into Egypt.

2. The book of *Exodus.*

a. *Theme:* The making of a covenant - relationship with Israel.

b. *Purpose:* To maintain the connecting link between the early history contained in *Genesis* and the remaining books in the Law as it relates to the nation of Israel in the unfolding of God's plan of redemption for ALL men.

c. *Outline.*

I. Israel In Egypt. (1:1 - 12:36)

II. Israel's Deliverance From Egypt To Sinai. (12:37 - 18:27)

III. Israel At Sinai. (19:3 - 40:38)

d. *Facts.*

- 1) The Ten Plagues.
- 2) The Exodus.
- 3) The Law.
- 4) The Tabernacle.
- 5) The Priesthood and its service.

3. The book of *Leviticus.*

a. *Theme:* The way to God: Atonement.

b. *Purpose:* To disclose the laws and ritual involving the development of both the moral and spiritual concepts of Israel's religious and civil life.

c. *Outline.*

- I. Laws Of The Offerings. (1 - 7)
- II. Laws Of The Priesthood. (8 - 10)
- III. Laws Of Purification. (11 - 16)
- IV. Laws Of Holiness. (17 - 27)

d. *Facts.*

1) Five great Offerings.

- a) The Burnt.
- b) The Meal.
- c) The Peace.
- d) The Sin.
- e) The Trespass.

2) Eight great Feasts.

- a) The Sabbath.
- b) The Passover.

- c) The Pentecost.
- d) The Trumpets.
- e) The Atonement.
- f) The Sabbatic Year.
- g) The Tabernacle.
- h) The Jubilee.

4. The book of *Numbers*.

a. *Theme:* Preparations for the Promised Land.

b. *Purpose:* To record the preparations for Israel's departure from Sinai and the march to the plains of Moab.

c. *Outline.*

I. Departure From Sinai. (1:1 - 10:10)

II. Journey To Plains Of Moab. (10:11 - 21:35)

III. Events In The Plains Of Moab. (22:1 - 36:13)

d. *Facts.*

- 1) The census of the people.
- 2) Two faithful spies: Joshua and Caleb.
- 3) The encampment of Israel.
- 4) Korah's rebellion.
- 5) Laws of land possession and inheritance.

5. The book of *Deuteronomy*.

a. *Theme: The Law reviewed:* Exhortation and explanation concerning the possessing of the Promised Land: "*Remember and obey.*"

b. *Purpose:* To record the last addresses and admonitions of the great prophet Moses to the people before crossing the Jordan to possess the land of promise.

c. *Outline.*

- I. Moses' First Discourse. (1:1 - 4:43)
- II. Moses' Second Discourse. (4:44 - 26:19)
- III. The Renewed Covenant. (27:1 - 30:29)
- IV. Moses' Final Discourse. (31:1 - 34:12)

d. *Facts.*

- 1) The second generation of Israel admonished to obey.
- 2) The death of Moses.
- 3) The new leader, Joshua.

6. The book of *Joshua*.

a. *Theme:* Conquest and division of the Promised Land.

b. *Purpose:* To record the continuing history of Israel from the wilderness wanderings and trace the history of the theocratic nation of Israel under Joshua.

c. *Outline.*

- I. Coming Into The Land. (1:1 - 5:12)
- II. Conquering The Land. (5:13 - 12:24)
- III. Possessing The Land. (13:1 - 24:33)

d. *Facts.*

- 1) The land-nation aspect of the Abrahamic promise is historically realized and fulfilled under Joshua's leadership. (21:43-45)
- 2) The farewell discourse and death of Joshua. (25:14-15)

IV. CONCLUSION.

- A. The Unfolding Of God's Marvelous Plan Of Redemption Having Begun In Creation, Took The Form Of A Promise To Abraham And Was Brought Historically To This Point: *Israel (Through Whom The Lord Jesus Christ Would Come) Is In The Land Of Promise.*
- B. The Next Lesson Will Continue The History Of Humanity As It Heads Toward Its Goal: *Jesus Christ.*