



# Traveling God's Word

A chronological study of the Bible

## WEEK 2

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Read:

Genesis 3-6:8

In the first two chapters of Genesis, our Lord as the Sovereign Creator of the universe was introduced. This week, His nature is shown by His responses to both the righteous and the sinful choices of mankind. We find that He has allowed there to be a serpent present in His perfect world who presents the challenge of choice. When Adam and Eve hid from their Lord in shame, He called to them and invited them once again into His presence. He expects obedience and will punish the violation of His standards of justice, while also clothing His wayward children with both present and future grace. Our Lord shows us that though there are ways that may seem very right to us, they are still not right in His book. He is pleased with the offering of Abel, and lovingly but unswervingly firm in his warnings to Cain. After Cain rejected our Lord's reproof in favor of his own definition of justice, killing his brother in a self-righteous denial of God's righteousness, God was merciful in protecting Cain, even in his exile. We see that our Lord is expressive of emotions such as disappointment, grief, and even wrath toward sinful man, yet sends ample warnings before He acts. He is quick to acknowledge and favor and preserve those who have sought Him. Our Lord says much in these few chapters to reveal what is important to Him, and what is not... and we learn that even as puny individuals, in a long list of names, we count as the upmost in importance to Him.

**"If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it." Gen. 4:7**

## The Serpent's Craft Gen. 3:1-5

Just a few short verses, some forty or so spoken words from the serpent, but such dramatic change for all of mankind. It doesn't take much. One minute we are standing firm and secure, and the next we have fallen to effectively slanted words. The serpent's craft is alive and well today.

What command and consequence for breaking it did God give to man in Gen. 2:16-17? \_\_\_\_\_

The serpent did not entirely deny God's words, but rather changed them just enough, cast them in a different enough light, that Eve would respond to the choice presented in a different way. What changes did the serpent make in his presentation of God's command and the consequences? \_\_\_\_\_

How were the results different from what the serpent had led Eve to believe? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the connection between the serpent and Satan according to Rev. 12:9 and 20:2? \_\_\_\_\_

In the Scientific American Mind article, "When Words Decide" author Barry Schwartz makes this observation: *"We all seem rather fickle. Indeed, studies on the psychology of choice somewhat radically imply that we do not strictly possess preferences and values; instead we construct them in response to the questions the world asks us or the choices it presents us."* In other words, the attractiveness of choosing one option over another will depend largely on the context, wording, and comparisons in which the choice is presented. A simple change in wording can make a massive difference in what appears to be the best choice. In addition, our tendency to lazily choose whatever default, or expected behavior, that is set before us is huge. (Schwartz . 37-43)



What kind of power does James attribute to the spoken word in James 3:6-12? \_\_\_\_\_

What are some of the "forked tongues", or wording traps, that put a different slant on our choices today? \_\_\_\_\_

How did Satan slant the truth as he tempted Jesus in Matt. 4:1-17? \_\_\_\_\_

How did Jesus respond to Satan differently than Eve responded to the serpent? \_\_\_\_\_

What help can we glean from the following verses? \_\_\_\_\_

Heb. 5:14 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Thess. 5:21,22 \_\_\_\_\_

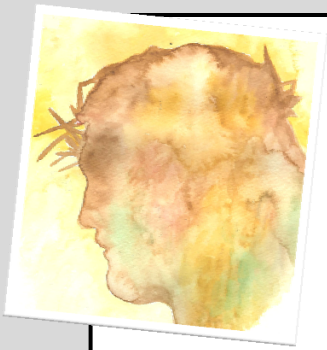
John 16:13 \_\_\_\_\_

How insistent were Adam and Eve on going back to the actual words of God in their decision to eat the forbidden fruit? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think was God's purpose for placing the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think that God allowed the serpent to be present in the Garden? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think was God's purpose for the Tree of Life? \_\_\_\_\_



## SPOTTING CHRIST

There is so much redemption in these few chapters of Genesis! In fact, it introduces the thread of redemption that winds its way through all of this journey through His words to us.

What was the first thing the Lord said to Adam and Eve after they had sinned?

How had Adam and Eve attempted to cover their shame? \_\_\_\_\_

How did the Lord God provide better coverage in 3:21? \_\_\_\_\_

How does Gal. 3:27 say that He covers our shame now?

How do you deal with your own shame? \_\_\_\_\_

### Just wondering....

What was the Lord wearing as He walked in the garden in the cool of the day?

## Eve's Comeback

“your desire will be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.” Gen. 3:16b

There has been a lot of debate over this single line. It has been taken as validation for male control and domination over women. There have been many sinful abuses justified by referring to this mystifying string of words, yet I find it highly unlikely that our Lord of redemption and restoration was giving His okay to such behavior. Is it really a description of what the relationship between men and women is supposed to look like as a punishment for Eve's sin? What exactly did our Lord mean by it? We come a step closer in understanding by examining the words themselves.

What if when the consequence of her sin was announced to Eve – “your *tesuqah* (desire or longing) will be for your *eesh* (man, husband), and he will *masal* (rule, govern, control, have power) over you” – that *eesh* man was human, but also fulfilled in the future Christ as man, the man that will come for His bride? Why are most churches filled with more women than men? Could it be the desire for **that** man? Whoever we aim to please controls us, but our true desire is for the man Christ. He is the one that we have been waiting for every since Eve's stumble into sin. He has come. Perhaps the consequence that we call a curse is double sided and can also be a blessing, depending on who we look to for its fulfillment. When God disciplines, He has the ability to also bless with it.

What choice did God outlined through Moses in Deut. 11:26-28? \_\_\_\_\_

How can our desires or longings be satisfied according to Psalm 107:9? \_\_\_\_\_

In Daniel 11:37, who is the “one beloved by women”? \_\_\_\_\_

I can't imagine the amount of sorrow that Eve underwent—her grief and shame over being expelled from the garden, the tragic consequences of sin in the loss of both Abel and Cain, and even in the surely strained relationship with her husband. To so abruptly go from an idyllic existence, to the harsh reality of fallenness must have been crushingly difficult. But it did not end her. She still looked to her Lord and was blessed by Him. Who named Seth in 4:25, and what did his name mean? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think Eve's relationship with the Lord was like at this point in time? \_\_\_\_\_



## Curses and Blessings Gen. 3

*"I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. Exodus 20:5,6*

There were definitely consequences for the first sin, as well as every sin that has followed. But why are we so much more intent on focusing on those, extending to three or four generations, instead of His redemptive blessings to a thousand generations? Which party was actually the one cursed in 3:14?

\_\_\_\_\_ Who does 5:29 promise that the curse on the land would be softened through?

## Your Godly Heritage

I used to skip over the genealogies of the Bible, seeing them as nothing more than boring trivia that offered little or nothing to encourage me in my own walk with God. But that assumption left me with the nagging question of why they were there. It intrigued me, and I started paying more attention to them. Since the Hebrew word that we translate "son of" can mean son, grandson, or even nation (Meyer), these lists of names are probably not all inclusive. Those who are listed are being recognized for their part in this family heritage, even though what their contribution was may not be recorded. We can only speculate what it may have been that made their lives mean something in the greater story being told. Would I be listed in a story of my family? Do I cooperate with God's plan in a way that transforms my insignificance into a vital part played for God? Even though my part may be small, it is still a crucial piece of the picture.



## Enoch Gen. 5:18-24

What information are we given about Enoch?

\_\_\_\_\_

What else do we learn about him from Heb. 11:5-6?

\_\_\_\_\_

What did Enoch prophesy according to Jude 14-15?

\_\_\_\_\_

How many years passed before it happened? \_\_\_\_\_



## Methuselah ~ a picture of God's mercy

Methuselah's name means something like, "when he dies it will fall" (Yandian). It seems reasonable to presume that the "it" that his father Enoch named him for was the same event that Enoch warned would come upon the earth. Enoch apparently knew that only the lifespan of his son stood between life as they knew it, and large scale destruction by flood. As long as Methuselah lived, God's judgment on man would be delayed. The fact that Methuselah lived a record of 969 years, can only be a picture of God's long-suffering mercy, giving mankind ample opportunity to repent. Methuselah is not the only name in Genesis 5 whose meaning bears a message. According to Chuck Missler, the story of God's redemptive plans for man is told through the sequence of names.

Adam means MAN

Seth means APPOINTED

Enosh means MORTAL, FRAIL, or MISERABLE

Kenan means SORROW, or DIRGE

Mahalalel means BLESSED + GOD

Jared means SHALL COME DOWN

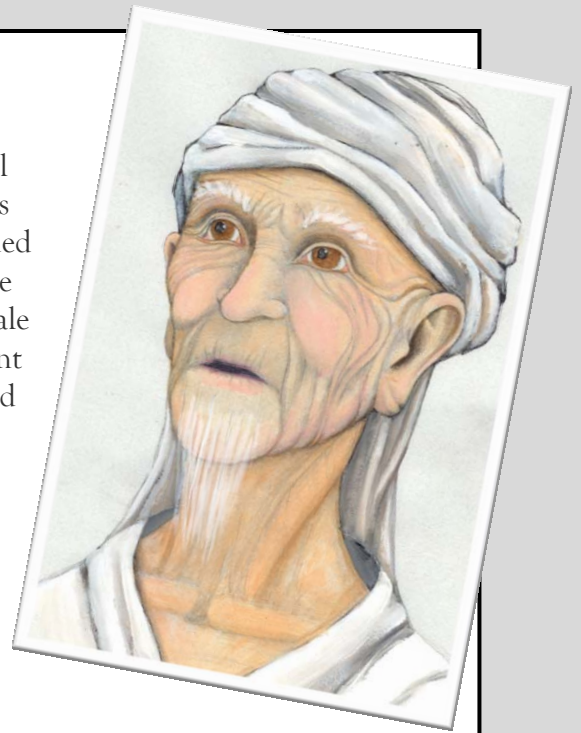
Enoch means TEACHING or COMMENCEMENT

Methuselah means HIS DEATH SHALL BRING

Lamech means LAMENT

Noah means RELIEF or COMFORT

How does this list of meanings parallel the message of the gospel? \_\_\_\_\_



## Sons of God and Daughters of Men Genesis 6:1-8

There are three main interpretations of this. Which one do you think is right?

**1. The "sons of God" are fallen angels and the "daughters of men" are people.**

What do you think based on these passages?

2 Peter 2:4 \_\_\_\_\_

Job 1:6 \_\_\_\_\_

Matt. 22:30 \_\_\_\_\_

**2. The "sons of God" were the godly descendants of Seth from chapter 5, who married the ungodly women from the line of Cain in chapter 4.**

How does Matt. 5:9 use the phrase, "son of God"? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. The phrase "sons of God" may have been used to describe human rulers since kings were associated with gods in the ancient world.**

The word nephilim comes a root which means "to fall" though they were seen by man as "heroes of old", though they were sinful people.

Use the clues below to find the descendants of Cain and Seth to fill in the crossword puzzle on the following page. The clues in red are descendants of Cain while those in blue are descendants of Seth.

### Across

- 3 gave Noah a name with a meaning 5:28,29
- 5 father of those who play the harp and flute 4:21
- 7 lived apart from the Lord in the land of Nod 4:16
- 9 son of Seth 5:6
- 10 son of Noah 5:32
- 11 born when Noah was 500 years old 5:32
- 13 son of Adam and Eve, lived 912 years 5:3,8
- 14 Lamech's father 4:18
- 16 son of Noah 5:32
- 17 grandson of Cain, father of Mehujael 4:18
- 18 father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock 4:20
- 19 Naamah's mother 4:22

### Down

- 1 walked with God, then was not 5:24
- 2 father of Enoch 5:18
- 4 son of Enoch and grandfather of Noah - lived 969 years 5:27
- 6 Methuselah's grandson 5:26-29
- 8 sister of Tubal-Cain 4:22
- 12 Irad's son 4:18
- 14 born when Cainan was 70 5:12
- 15 son of Adam killed by Cain 4:25

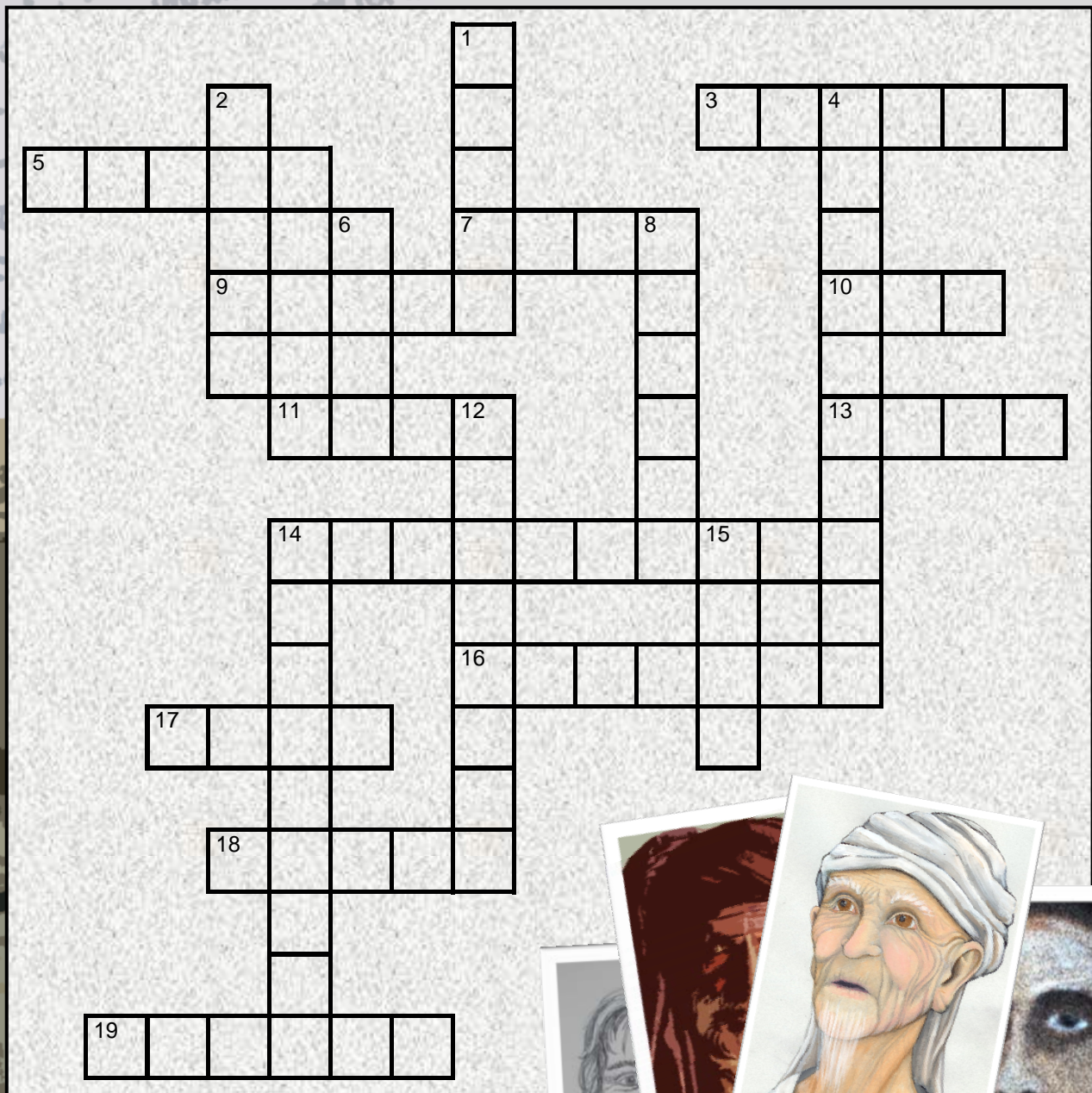
### Sumerian King List

Sumer is the region of Mesopotamia to the south of present day Baghdad which was an influence on the ancient Biblical world much as the Roman Empire was to the world much later on. The Sumerians created the world's first writing system called cuneiform, and many Sumerian texts have Biblical parallels. One of these is the Sumerian King List, an ancient list of the kings of Sumer and Akkad written during the reign of Uruk. It begins with "when kingship was lowered from heaven" and then goes on to list the succession of kings and length of their reign and cities from which they ruled. Their reigns were very long—in the tens of thousand of years! After a great flood covered the land the kings had much shorter reigns, only 140 to 1200 years.



# Puzzle Page

GENEAOLOGY OF GENESIS 4 AND 5





# ANSWERS AND SOURCES



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[www.downvictoryrd.com](http://www.downvictoryrd.com)

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