

**Union United Methodist Church**  
Fall FOCUS Bible School, 2022  
FOCUS: Followers Of Christ Understanding Scripture  
Study: Book of Genesis

**Week 2: October 05, 2022**

**Adam through Noah: Judgement & New Covenant**

This Week's Study: **Genesis chapters 5 through 10**

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## 1. Recap & Reminder

- **Overview of Genesis**

The table below gives a breakdown of the chapters of Genesis, with themes that we shall be exploring in this study. We shall cover one theme per week. Today we begin our next week's study of Genesis 5 through 10 for the week.

<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Theme</b>
1	4	Creation & The Fall, Original Sin
<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Adam through Noah: Judgement &amp; New Covenant</b>
11	14	Babel, A New Beginning in Abram
15	17	Abrahamic Covenants
18	20	Intercession & Judgement: Sodom & Gomorrah
21	25	Isaac - A Promise Fulfilled; Faithfulness Proven
26	30	Abrahamic Covenants: Second Generation - Jacob & Esau
31	36	Jacob's Family; Reconciliation with Esau
37	41	Abrahamic Covenants: Third Generation - Jacob's Children
42	47	Joseph & Migration to Egypt
48	50	Israel in Egypt, Death of Jacob

Please refer to last week's outline and lecture for more background. You can find these on our website: <https://unionumcnc.com>

## 2. Genesis 5 to 10 Overview

- **Genesis 5:1-3 Creation & Reproduction of Humans Summarized**

These three verses introduce Adam's family line after Cain and Abel.

Recall: Cain killed Abel and was judged by God. The narrative in this chapter shows how Adam & Eve's family grew after their first two sons.

**Note:**

- **Humans were created in God's likeness by God**

**"When God created mankind [Adam in the Hebrew text], he made them in the likeness of God.**

2He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them "Mankind" [Adam in the Hebrew text] when they were created" Genesis 5:1-2 NIV

- **Humans reproduced in their likeness**

**"When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth."**

We are created in God's image and likeness.

We give birth to children in our image and likeness.

In this, we emulate our Creator, the Lord God Almighty.

- **Genesis 5:4-32 Adam & Eve to Noah's Children**

**Biblical genealogical accounts can seem monotonous and boring. But they usually contain key information, and important facts. They are worth reading closely. Some important points to note:**

- **Life Expectancy (how long people lived) in the beginning**

God did not intend for humans to physically die. We were made to live forever.

**God is an Eternal Spirit. His breath in us was meant to be in us eternally.**

**With sin came death. Examples:**

- Adam lived 930 years - v5
- Seth, Adam & Eve's third son, lived 912 years - v8
- Enosh, Seth's son, lived 905 years - v11 ...
- Methuselah lived longest - 969 years - v25

In Christ, God has made it possible for us to have eternal life again:

- **"The first man, Adam, became a living being; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit."** 1 Corinthians 15:45 NRSV
- We receive eternal life when we believe in Jesus - John 3:16

- Those who die in Christ shall be resurrected to eternal life at the second coming of Christ  
 “For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.”  
 1 Corinthians 15:21-22 NRSV
- We shall receive new bodies that never die, just as Jesus did, at the resurrection. Christ Jesus is the first born of those who are resurrected from the dead.  
 “He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.” Colossians 1:18 NRSV

- **Biological Clock:**

Childbirth could come quite late in life, by our standards

- Adam had Seth when he was 130 years old, and had more children after that - v3-4
- Seth had Enosh at 105 years, and had more after that - v 6-7
- Methusela had Lamech when he was 187 years old, and had more children after that - v25-26

- **Enoch bucked the trend!**

“Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.” Genesis 5:24

Note the reason Enoch was given a pass - he walked faithfully with God.

Note, Enoch was Methuselah’s father.

- **Genesis 6:1-8 Sin Abounds, God Reacts, Life Expectancy Curtailed to 120 years**

It is helpful to see a translation from The Contemporary Torah, JPS, 2006 reads on these first 6 verses (See Tanakh on Sefaria.com or Sefaria app):

וַיְהִי כִּי־הִתְחַל הָאָדָם לָרֹב עַל־פְּנֵי הָאֲדָמָה וּבָנוֹת יִלְדוּ לָהֶם: <sup>1</sup>

When humankind began to increase on earth and daughters were born to them,

וַיִּרְאוּ בְנֵי־הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת־בָּנוֹת הָאָדָם כִּי טֹבֹת הָנָּה וַיִּקְחוּ  
לָהֶם נָשִׁים מִכָּל אֲשֶׁר בָּחָרוּ: <sup>2</sup>

the [males among the] divine beings\* saw how pleasing the human women were and took wives from among those who delighted them.—

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה לֹא־יָדוֹן רוּחִי בָאָדָם לְעֹלָם בְּשַׂגָּם הוּא בָשָׂר  
וְהָיוּ יָמָיו מֵאָה וְעֶשְׂרִים שָׁנָה: <sup>3</sup>

יהוה said, “My breath shall not abide\* in humankind forever, since it too is flesh; let the days allowed them be one hundred and twenty years.”—

הַנְּפִלִים הָיוּ בָאָרֶץ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם וְגַם אַחֲרֵי־כֵן אֲשֶׁר יָבֹאוּ בְנֵי  
הָאֱלֹהִים אֶל־בָּנוֹת הָאָדָם וַיִּלְדוּ לָהֶם הַמָּה הַגִּבּוֹרִים אֲשֶׁר  
מֵעוֹלָם אֲנָשֵׁי הַשָּׁמַיִם: {פ} <sup>4</sup>

It was then, and later too, that the Nephilim appeared on earth—when divine beings cohabited with the human women, who bore them offspring. Such were the heroes of old, the men of renown.

- Some have said that the “sons of God” or “divine beings” referred to in verse 2 refers to angels. The text is not very clear on that.
- What is clear is that:
  - God was displeased with that state of affairs since that was not his intent in creating humans. This violated God’s moral law and the holiness God required of humans.
  - God pronounced judgement - human life expectancy shortened to 120 years.  
 “Then the Lord said, “My spirit shall not abide in mortals forever, for they are flesh; their days shall be one hundred twenty years.”  
 Genesis 6:3 NRSV

- **Genesis 6:5-7: Human Inclinations Turn towards evil; God is grieved; Judgement again**

5The Lord saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. 6And the Lord was sorry that he had made humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.

- **Genesis 6:8-22: Noah Walks with God; God reveals judgement to Noah**

- Noah’s walk with God  
 “Noah found favor in the sight of the Lord” - v8

“Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God.” - v9

“Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.” V22

- God’s Plan and Judgement  
 Note God’s detail plan and timing in the judgement of sin in Noah’s time. This is a warning to us in our time - there is a future judgement coming:

“But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. **9The Lord is not**

slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. 10But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed."

2 Peter 3:8-10 NRSV

Also note that God was going to cause the animals to come to Noah, once the ark was ready. All Noah had to do was obey.

- **Genesis 7-8: The Flood**

Some key facts:

- Only Noah and his sons and his three sons and their wives survived the flood
  - God caused the animals to come to Noah in pairs.
  - **God did not recreate animals or repeat creation of humans.** God worked with what remained (the remnant) after the judgement came to pass.
  - It rained 40 days and nights (7:12), the resulting flood continued for 40 days (7:18), and all living creatures on earth perished (7:22), and the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred and fifty days (7:24).
  - God did not forget Noah and his family (8:1)
  - It took over 10 months for the waters of the flood to abate (8:3-7)
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- **Genesis 8:20-22, 9:1-17: A New Covenant**
    - First, Noah built altar and offered burnt offerings on the altar. This was an act of humility and worship and submission to God
    - Next, God was pleased with the offering, and responded with an everlasting promise:  
"when the Lord smelled the pleasing odor, the Lord said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done." 8:22 NRSV

- **Laws of Nature - backed by Divine Covenant**

**As long as the earth endures,  
seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,  
summer and winter, day and night,  
shall not cease."**

**Genesis 8:22 NRSV Today's Memory Verse**

- **Blessing of Adam & Eve Renewed & Passed on to Noah and his descendants:**

**"Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth" 9:1, 9:7**

- **Additional Provisions**

- **Animals given for food as well as plants**
- **Blood of an animal is not to be consumed with its flesh**  
9:4 **"Only, you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood."**
- **Reckoning for human life taken by another human or animal:**  
9:5 **"For your own lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning: from every animal I will require it and from human beings, each one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life."**
- **Covenant established with Noah, his descendants (including us), and every living creature - 9:9-11**
- **Sign of the Covenant: the rainbow 9:12-17**

### **3. Daily Study Schedule & Questions**

- **Day 1: Genesis 5 - Adam & Eve's Family & Descendants**

As you read and study the verses, here are some suggestions of themes to reflect on - see the cross-references in other scripture:

- The importance of families and the family line
- The result of sin and the corruption that has come into the world because of sin
- Life expectancy, death and why it is a corruption of what God intended

- What Jesus came to do for us and our families
  - The importance of resurrection. **Homework:** think about what happened after Jesus was raised from the dead, his glorified body, what Jesus did after his resurrection, and what that says about our own future.
- **Day 2: Genesis 6:1-8 Human Wickedness & God's Reaction**  
Suggested reflection themes:
    - Why we have short life expectancy today
    - How can we prolong our lives (within the 120 days God stipulated)?  
**Homework:** What other passages of scripture can you find to support your answer?
    - How does God feel about sin and evil?
    - How should God's reactions to sin make us feel and think and do about sin?
- **Day 3: Genesis 6:8-22 - Noah's Obedience & Preparation for the Flood**  
Suggested reflection themes:
    - What do you learn from the attitude of Noah and his family to God's instructions?
    - How did God help Noah and his family?
    - What distinguished Noah from the people of his day?
    - What does God's detailed planning for the flood teach us about God?
- **Day 4: Genesis 7-8 The Flood**  
Suggested reflection themes:
    - What strikes you about the flood?
    - What lessons do you learn from the process Noah went through to determine the end of the flood, and how God led him through that?
- **Day 5: Genesis 8:18 - 9:17 God's Covenant with Noah and his descendants**  
Suggested reflection themes:
    - The terms of the covenant with Noah
    - Who is impacted by Noah's covenant
    - The effect of Noah's covenant in our own day and age.