

genesis

God's Book of Beginnings

An Introduction to *Moses, the Person* (c. 1525-1405 B.C.)

Born in Egypt, the son of Amram (“exalted nation”) and Jochebed (“YAHWEH is Glory”) ^{Exodus 6:20}

Moses’ older brother was Aaron ^{Exodus 6:20} (Moses’ prophet ^{Exodus 7:1-2}) and his (their) sister was Miriam ^{Numbers 26:59, 1 Chronicles 6:3} (a prophetess ^{Exodus 15:20, Numbers 12:1-2})

He was named Moses (“draw out”) by the daughter of Pharaoh who raised him ^{Exodus 2:10, Acts 7:21}

At the age of 40 ^{Acts 7:23}, Moses killed an Egyptian ^{Exodus 2:11-12} and then fled to Midian ^{Exodus 2:15}, where he married Zipporah ^{Exodus 2:21} (a daughter of Jethro, the priest of Midian ^{Exodus 3:1}).

They had 2 sons: Gershom (“alien”) and Eliezer (“my God is help”) ^{Exodus 18:2-4, 1 Chronicles 23:15}

Forty years later ^{Acts 7:30}, as Moses tended Jethro’s flocks, he had an encounter on Mt. Horeb (Mt. Sinai ^{Acts 7:30}) with Jesus (“I am” ^{Exodus 3:14, John 8:58}) in the burning bush ^{Exodus 3:1-4:17}

At the command of Jesus ^{Exodus 3:10}, Moses returned to Egypt, and after bringing ten plagues onto the Egyptian people, Moses led the Exodus of the Israelites out of Egypt ^{Exodus 12:31-51}

Moses directed the people through the Red Sea ^{Exodus 14:13-31}, to Mt. Sinai where he received the 10 Commandments ^{Exodus 19-20} and through the desert for 40 years ^{Exodus 16:35, Numbers 14:33-34}

He and his brother Aaron were not allowed to enter the Promised Land, because of their disobedience to God’s command at the waters of Meribah (“quarreling”) ^{Numbers 20:1-13,23-24}

Moses died at the age of 120 on Mount Nebo, just northeast of the Dead Sea ^{Deuteronomy 34:1-8}

An Introduction to the *“Book of Moses”* ^{2 Chronicles 25:4, Nehemiah 13:1, Mark 12:26}

Pentateuch is Greek for “five scrolls”; *Torah* is Hebrew for “instruction”, but often translated “law”

The Pentateuch (Torah, Law or the Book of Moses)

Book	Key Idea	The Nation	The People	God’s Character	God’s Role	God’s Command
Genesis	Beginnings	Chosen	Prepared	Sovereign	Creator	Let there be!
Exodus	Redemption	Delivered	Redeemed	Merciful	Deliverer	Let my people go!
Leviticus	Worship	Set Apart	Taught	Holy	Sanctifier	Be holy!
Numbers	Wandering	Directed	Tested	Just	Sustainer	Go in!
Deuteronomy	Renewed Covenant	Made Ready	Retaught	Loving LORD	Rewarder	Obey!

An Introduction to the *Book of Genesis*

Most scholars accept Moses as the author of Genesis, as well as the entire Pentateuch (although Joshua probably added the end of Deuteronomy after Moses died ^{Deuteronomy 32:48 – 34:12}); however, some scholars believe the Torah was compiled later by several editors

How can we be sure Moses wrote Genesis? He is named as the author:

- † ...in the Pentateuch ^{Exodus 17:14, Numbers 33:1-2}
- † ...in the rest of the OT ^{Joshua 8:30-33, 1 Kings 2:1-4, 2 Kings 14:5-6, Ezra 6:16-18, Daniel 9:11-13, Malachi 4:4}
- † ...in the Gospels ^{Matthew 8:3-4, Mark 12:24-27, Luke 16:27-31, 24:44, John 5:45-47}
- † ...in the rest of the NT ^{Romans 10:19, 1 Corinthians 9:7-11, 2 Corinthians 3:12-16}
- † ...but most importantly, Moses was named the author by Jesus ^{Luke 24:13-32}

An Outline of Genesis:

<i>Chapters</i>	<i>Central Theme/Character</i>	<i>Main Setting</i>	<i>Time Frame</i>
1-2	Creation (Universe, Man)	Mesopotamia	Creation to c. 2170 B.C.
3	Fall of Man		
4	Cain, Abel & Seth		
5	Noah, Rampant Sin		
6-9	Flood of Noah		
10-11	Tower of Babel		
12-20	Abraham	Palestine, Canaan	c. 2170 – 1855 B.C.
21-26	Isaac		
27-36	Jacob		
37-50	Joseph	Egypt	c. 1855 – 1800 B.C.

Examples of the important beginnings in Genesis: Creation, Sabbath, Man, Woman, Marriage, Sin, Judgement, Murder, Sacrifice, Grace, Nations, Races, Languages, Chosen People, etc.

An Introduction to the *Biblical Beginnings and Endings*

GENESIS

- 1st Heaven & 1st earth ^{1:1}
- Beautiful, sinless Paradise ^{2:8-25}
- 1st Adam – dominion over creatures ^{1:26-28}
- 1st bride became man's helpmate ^{2:20-24}
- Devil's 1st appearance ^{3:1-5}
- Entrance into sin, sorrow and suffering ^{3:6-19}
- Driven from the tree of life ^{3:23-24}
- 1st death ^{4:8}
- Man's rebellion at Tower of Babel ^{11:1-9}
- 1st account of tears ^{21:17}

REVELATION

- New Heaven & new earth ^{21:1}
- Still more wonderful Paradise ^{21:10-22:5}
- Last Adam – sovereign ruler ^{19:11-21}
- Bride of Christ reigns with Him ^{20:6}
- Devil's final doom ^{20:7-10}
- End of sin, sorrow and suffering ^{21:2-4}
- Invited back to the tree of life ^{22:1-2}
- No more death ^{21:4}
- God's destruction of Babylon ¹⁷⁻¹⁸
- All tears shall be wiped away ^{21:3-4}