

CONTENTS

Preface ix

Introduction: Michelangelo, Porcelain Miniatures, and Method ... xiii

Part One—Stories about Beginnings: Genesis 1–11

1. The Story of the Creation of All That Is: Genesis 1:1–2:3 3

2. The Story of the Creation of Man and Woman, the Paradise in Which They Lived and That They Chose to Lose, and the Sin That Ensued: Genesis 2–3; 4 25

Note: Genesis 5—The Ongoing Genealogy of Humanity 47

3. The Story of the Great Flood and the Covenant That Ensued: Genesis 6–9..... 49

Note: Genesis 10—The Ongoing Genealogy of Humanity 65

4. The Story about Babel: Genesis 11:1–9 67

Note: Genesis 11:10–32—The Ongoing Genealogy of Humanity (Abram, his family, and their troubles introduced) 73

Summary: The Narrative Structure of Genesis 1–11 75

Part Two—Stories about the Troubled Family Chosen for Blessing: Genesis 12–50

Introduction: Choosing Where to Stand 79

5. In the Time of the First Generation: Genesis 12–25 83

Excursus: God as a Developing Character in Genesis 12–25 171