
Table of Contents

Foreword	xi
Acknowledgments	xiii
Abbreviations	xv
Introduction	1

The Primeval Narrative (Gen. 1:1–11:26)

§1	The Creation of the Earth (Gen. 1:1–2:4a)	39
§2	Excursus: Comments on the Creation Account in Relationship to Scientific Views of Origins	56
§3	The Adventures in the Garden of Eden of the First Humans (Gen. 2:4b–3:24)	58
§4	Excursus: Reflections on the Disobedience of Adam and Eve	75
§5	Cain Slays Abel and Lamech Boasts (Gen. 4:1–26)	78
§6	Excursus: A Note on Culture	88
§7	The Descendants of Seth to Noah (Gen. 5:1–32)	91
§8	The Increase of Wickedness on Earth (Gen. 6:1–8)	95
§9	The Great Deluge (Gen. 6:9–8:22)	100
§10	God’s Blessing on Noah and His Offspring (Gen. 9:1–17)	109
§11	Noah Curses Canaan and Blesses Shem and Japheth (Gen. 9:18–29)	112
§12	The Table of Nations (Gen. 10:1–32)	116
§13	The Dispersion of Humans for Their Building at Babel (Gen. 11:1–9)	124
§14	The Descendants of Shem to Abraham (Gen. 11:10–26)	128

The Abraham Narrative (Gen. 11:27–25:18)

§15	God Calls Abram (Gen. 11:27–12:9)	130
§16	Abram's Perilous Encounter in Egypt (Gen. 12:10–20)	137
§17	Abram and Lot Separate (Gen. 13:1–18)	142
§18	Abram Rescues Lot from Captivity (Gen. 14:1–24)	147
§19	God's Covenant with Abram (Gen. 15:1–21)	154
§20	The Birth of Ishmael (Gen. 16:1–16)	164
§21	The Covenant of Circumcision (Gen. 17:1–27)	169
§22	Abraham Entertains Three Messengers from Heaven (Gen. 18:1–33)	177
§23	The Rescue of Lot from the Destruction of Sodom (Gen. 19:1–38)	185
§24	Abraham before Abimelech of Gerar (Gen. 20:1–18)	192
§25	The Birth of Isaac and the Expulsion of Ishmael (Gen. 21:1–21)	198
§26	The Treaty between Abraham and Abimelech (Gen. 21:22–34)	202
§27	The Binding of Isaac (Gen. 22:1–19)	205
§28	Excursus: Reflections on the Broader Implications of the Sacrifice of Isaac	212
§29	The Genealogy of Nahor (Gen. 22:20–24)	215
§30	Abraham Purchases the Cave of Machpelah (Gen. 23:1–20)	216
§31	Finding a Wife for Isaac (Gen. 24:1–67)	221
§32	Abraham's Death (Gen. 25:1–11)	230
§33	Ishmael's Lineage and Death (Gen. 25:12–18)	233

The Jacob Narrative (Gen. 25:19–36:43)

§34	The Birth and Early Rivalry of Esau and Jacob (Gen. 25:19–34)	235
§35	Isaac Settles in the Negev (Gen. 26:1–35)	239
§36	Jacob Steals Esau's Blessing (Gen. 27:1–28:9)	246
§37	Jacob's Dream at Bethel (Gen. 28:10–22)	255
§38	Jacob Arrives at Laban's House (Gen. 29:1–14)	259
§39	Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel (Gen. 29:15–30)	261
§40	The Birth of Jacob's Children (Gen. 29:31–30:24)	264
§41	The Increase in Jacob's Flocks (Gen. 30:25–43)	268
§42	Jacob Departs from Laban's House (Gen. 31:1–55)	271

§43	Jacob's Enigmatic Wrestling Match (Gen. 32:1–32)	280
§44	The Reunion of Jacob and Esau (Gen. 33:1–16)	288
§45	Jacob Settles in Canaan and the Rape of Dinah (Gen. 33:17–34:31)	291
§46	Jacob Returns to Bethel (Gen. 35:1–15)	298
§47	The Birth of Benjamin and the Deaths of Rachel and Isaac (Gen. 35:16–29)	302
§48	The Descendants of Esau (Gen. 36:1–43)	305

The Joseph Narrative (Gen. 37:1–50:26)

§49	Joseph's Dreams and His Sale into Slavery (Gen. 37:1–36) . .	309
§50	Judah and Tamar (Gen. 38:1–30)	314
§51	Joseph in Potiphar's House (Gen. 39:1–23)	320
§52	Joseph Interprets the Dreams of Pharaoh's Servants (Gen. 40:1–23)	323
§53	Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams and Rises to Power (Gen. 41:1–57)	326
§54	Jacob's Sons Buy Grain in Egypt (Gen. 42:1–38)	331
§55	Jacob's Sons Return to Egypt (Gen. 43:1–45:28)	335
§56	Jacob and His Family Move to Egypt (Gen. 46:1–47:12) . . .	343
§57	Joseph's Administration of the Famine (Gen. 47:13–27) . . .	347
§58	Jacob Prepares for His Death (Gen. 47:28–31)	349
§59	Jacob Blesses Joseph and His Sons (Gen. 48:1–22)	350
§60	Jacob's Last Testament (Gen. 49:1–28)	355
§61	Jacob's Death and Funeral (Gen. 49:29–50:14)	363
§62	Joseph's Care of His Brothers (Gen. 50:15–21)	366
§63	Joseph's Death (Gen. 50:22–26)	368

For Further Reading 369

Subject Index 375

Scripture Index 385