

Genesis  
“An Old Testament Survey”

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled tonight's overview: “Understanding My Bible.”

~ INTRO ~

TONIGHT...

- We dive into our *Summer Series* in the O.T.
  - And... it's my aim to help you get a better grasp...
    - On how to know & use your Bible.

GODS WORD...

- “*Is a lamp to our feet and light to our path*” (Ps. 119:105).

SO...

- By teaching you an overview from the scenes of significance...
  - You will be able to take *the light of the word*...
    - And navigate the *small spaces of* [your] *life*.<sup>1</sup>

NOW...

- I'm going to present... this introduction to the Bible...
  - By using the illustration of binoculars...
    - By zooming in & zooming out.

OK... HERE WE GO.

A FEW...

- **General Facts About the Bible:**
  - The Bible is made up of 66-books.
  - It was written by 40 different authors.
  - It was written over a period of 1,500-years.
  - And in 3-languages.

POINT BEING...

- God has given mankind a central message about life...

---

<sup>1</sup> Richard Cimino. *The Ultimate Route 66 Road Trip* PDF (p.16). Sourced from [www.MetroCalvary.org](http://www.MetroCalvary.org).

Genesis  
“An Old Testament Survey”

- (Both our origin & purpose).
  - God has given man: Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth.

NOW... The **Old Testament**...

- Is made up of 39-books / 929 chapters / with 23,214 verses.
  - Which... narrate the story from *Creation*...
    - Until the *First Advent of Christ*.

NEXT... The **New Testament**...

- Is made up of 27-books / 260 chapters / with 7,959 verses.

**IN TOTAL...**

- The Bible is 66-books / 1,189 chapters / with 31,173 verses.

HERE'S THE COOL THING...

- If we break this down into daily increments...
  - You can read thru the entire Bible in 1-year...
    - By reading it for 12-minutes a day.

NOW... THE SWINDOLL STUDY BIBLE<sup>2</sup>

- Notes that the first five-books of the Old Testament...
  - (**Gen. thru Deut.**) were written by Moses.
- AND these books chronicle a series of foundational events.

**FOR EXAMPLE:**

- 1) God creating of the world.
- 2) God selecting & using a man – Abraham the Father of Faith.
- 3) God's promise & growth of Abrahams family into a Nation – **Israel**.
- 4) God's deliverance of **Israel** out of slavery from the Egyptians.
- 5) God's law given to **Israel** – How To's for living in relationship with God.
- 6) God's care for **Israel** in the wilderness.
- 7) God bringing **Israel** to the edge of the *Promised Land*.

THAT'S A HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY...

- Of the **first five books** of the Bible.

---

<sup>2</sup> Charles R. Swindoll Study Bible. *The Pentateuch* (p.2). © 2017 by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

Genesis  
“An Old Testament Survey”

NOW... MOSES' AUTHORSHIP...

- Is confirmed by Jesus in (John 5:45-47) NKJV.
  - Yet, we should understand that Moses didn't come on the scene...
    - Until about 400-years after the events of (Genesis).

HERE'S WHAT'S INTERESTING.

- Moses is coming into the God given promises of (Genesis)..
  - And then in the remaining four books he writes...
    - They record **Israel's** responses to those promises...
      - (Literally... his generation's response to God!)

AT TIMES HIS PEOPLE...

- Lived they seemed to exercise faith...
  - BUT... their lives were characterized by rebellion & unbelief.

THESE ARE...

- Real people who wrestled with faith in God.
  - “Can God be trusted to care for me!?!”

FINALLY...

- Next week as we open our Bibles and move into (Genesis)..
  - Understand... that there's 2,000 years of history covered...
    - Between (Gen. 1 – 11).

AND... IF WE BREAK THEM DOWN...

- Here's what we get:
  - I. *Creation (Gen. 1-2)*
  - II. *Fall of man into sin (Gen. 3)*
  - III. *Earth being populated & the effects of sin spread (Gen. 4-5)*
  - IV. *God floods & destroys the earth (Gen. 6 - 8)*
  - V. *Noah's Family / Human Government / Dispersion at Babel (Gen. 9-11).*

~ IN CLOSING ~

OK...

- Tonight we've talked about...
  - OT & NT
  - First five books of Bible (Gen. – Deut.).

Genesis  
“An Old Testament Survey”

- I mentioned 2,000 years of history in ([Gen. 1-11](#))
  - AND we close with the big picture from ([Gen. – Rev.](#)).

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO A **TERM**.

- The Bible is organized into what is called – *dispensations*.

Got Questions.org says...

*In theology, a dispensation is the divine administration of a period of time; each dispensation is... [an] appointed age. Dispensationalism is a theological system that recognizes these ages ordained by God to order the affairs of the world.* <sup>3</sup>

**There Are Seven Dispensations<sup>4</sup>**

From Genesis to Revelation:

- 1) Innocence ([Genesis 1:1—3:7](#)).
- 2) Conscience ([Genesis 3:8—8:22](#)).
- 3) Human Government ([Genesis 9:1—11:32](#)).
- 4) Promise ([Genesis 12:1—Exodus 19:25](#)).
- 5) Law ([Exodus 20:1—Acts 2:4](#)).
- 6) Grace ([Acts 2:4—Revelation 20:3](#)).
  - The church is birthed here... & Christ returns to rule the earth.
- 7) The Millennial Kingdom ([Revelation 20:4—6](#)).

SO... UNDERSTAND...

- That the *dispensations*... segment world history...
  - And show us how God relates to humanity...
    - Within the given *dispensation*.

**READ:**

- ([Acts 17:30-31](#)) NLT
- ([Rom 13:11-12](#)) NLT
- ([Rev. 1:1](#)) NKJV

---

<sup>3</sup> *What is Dispensationalism and Is It Biblical?* © 2002 Got Questions Ministries. Article sourced on 06/18/2023 from <https://www.gotquestions.org/dispensationalism.html>

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. <https://www.gotquestions.org/dispensationalism.html>

Genesis  
*“An Old Testament Survey”*