

THE BOOK OF GENESIS
An Outline Study
(Updated and Revised June 1, 2011)

By
Dr. O. Wilburn Swaim, TH.D.

- I. THE WORK OF CREATION (Chapters 1-3)
- Declarations of Creation: Genesis 5:1; Exodus 20:11; I Samuel 2:8; II Kings 19:15; Nehemiah 9:6; Job 26:7; 37:16;38:4; Psalms 24:1; 90:2; 104:2-6; Isaiah 40:12; 45:7; Jeremiah 51:15; Mark 13:19; Acts 17:24; Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:16,17; Hebrews 1:1; 11:3; The Revelation 14:7.
- A. The Creator (1:1) Elohim--unity/plural name, suggesting the Trinity (see Scofield note #1, p.3). No proof offered; His existence assumed and declared as fact. Faith. The Father's work (1:1 w/ Isaiah 45:18), through the Son (John 1:3), by the activity of the Holy Spirit (1:2b).
- B. The Creation (1:2-2:25)
"Bara" something from nothing (1:1, 21, 27).
1. The Initial Act (1:1)
- a. Time
 - 1) To Flow until Eternity
 - 2) A Vehicle for Transporting His Plan
 - b. Space
 - 1) To Stretch into infinity
 - 2) The Setting for His props
 - c. Matter (i.e., that which is perceived by sense and occupies space)
 - 1) To Provide Substance in Existence
 - 2) From which to Mould His Performers
2. The Perfecting Process (1:2-2:3). No Gap--Isaiah 24:1; 45:18; Jeremiah 4:23-26. The material molded into shape.
- a. The Spirit Forms the Water (2b, 6-9a). Moves:
 - 1) Over the water (2a)
 - 2) In the water (6-8)
 - 3) Upon the water (9a)
 - b. The Spirit Shapes the Land (7-13). He:
 - 1) Uncovers the land (9-10)
 - 2) Covers the land (11-13)
 - c. The Spirit Supplies the Heavens: (14-19)
 - 1) The Day-Heaven with the Sun (15-18)
 - 2) The Night-Heaven with the Moon and Stars (15-18)
 - d. The Spirit Populates the Planet: 20-31)
 - 1) The Ocean with Aquatic Life (20-23)
 - 2) The Air with Aerial Life (20-23)
 - 3) The Earth with:
 - a) Plant Life (note I.B, 2, b), 2) above)
 - b) Animal Life (24, 25)
 - c) Human Life (26-31)
- C. The Crown of The Creation (1:26, 27; 2:4-25)
1. The Making of Man--the Overview
- a. Created as an Original Form (27) note, "bara" is used for the third time.
 - b. Created in the Image of God (26) Man, a tri-unity:

- 1) Possesses a Body. For world consciousness--Form; the five senses.
- 2) Is a Soul. For self consciousness
- 3) Possesses a Spirit. For God consciousness; Unique relationship to fellow humans.
- c. Created Male and Female (27)
- d. Created in Superiority (28-31)
 - 1) To Populate the Earth (28a)
 - 2) To Preside over the Earth (28b)
 - 3) To Partake of the Earth (29, 30)
2. The Making of Man--the Details (2:7-25)
 - a. Body from the Dust of the Earth (7a)
 - b. Soul and Spirit from the Breath of God (7b)
 - c. Home in the Garden of Eden (8-17)
 - 1) His Environment Described (9-14)
 - a) The Resident Trees (9)
 - b) The Rivers Flowing (10-14)
 - c) The Restriction Given (16, 17)
 - 2) His Employment Decried (15-17)
 - 3) His Isolation Discovered (18-20) The Problem--no worthy animal (19, 20)
 - 4) His Existence Duplicated (21-25)

Note: Outline of vs. 23-25:

THREE MODERN-DAY PROBLEMS IN THE HOME:

1. *VIOLATION OF THE ORDER OF THE HOME (23) compare I Timothy 2:13, 14 and Isaiah 3:4, 12*
 2. *VIOLATION OF THE ESTABLISHING OF HOMES (24)*
 3. *VIOLATION OF THE SANCTITY OF THE HOME (25) compare I Thessalonians 4:1-8*
-

- D. The Corruption of The Creation (3:1-24)
1. The Character of Sin. (Man created in untested innocence.) Its:
 - a. Root (5, 6)
 - 1) Lust
 - 2) Pride
 - b. Reality (11) note Rom 5:12
 - c. Result (7-19)
 - 1) Sin's Great Costs:
 - a) Spiritual Death (Eternal Life Lost) (8, 9).
 - b) Suffering for the Serpent (Enduring Glory Removed) (14).
 - c) Certain Judgment for Satan (Irreversible Judgment Decried) (15).
 - d) Sorrow for the Woman (Subjection to the Man; Sorrow in Child-bearing) (16).
 - e) Sweat & Toil for the Man (Permanent Loss of Paradise) (17-19).
 - 2) Beginning of Religion-- Man's Attempt, to: (8-13).
 - a) Hide His Sinfulness (8).
 - b) Avoid Responsibility for His Sin (12).
 - c) Make Himself Acceptable to God (7).
 - 3) Reverse God's Order (12, 17).

- 4) Alleviate Toil in Labor (17-19).
- 5) Prolong Life (19).
- 6) Deny Man's Relationship to God (19).

- 2. Sin's Great Cost:
 - a. Satan, His Exalted Position
 - b. Mankind, His Edenic Paradise
 - c. God, His Only Begotten Son
 - d. Christ, His Life's Blood
 - e. Sinner, His Prospect of Eternity with God
 - 1) Remedy (21)
 - a) Man's: note I John 1:7-10 w/Proverbs 28:13
 - b) Provide a Covering (7)
 - c) Hide from God (8)
 - d) Shift the Blame (12)
 - 2) God's Remedy (3:21)
 - a) Free Grace
 - b) Innocent Substitute
 - c) Shed Blood
 - d) Receive the Provision
- 3. The Wiles of Satan. He:
 - a. Questioned God's Word (1)
 - b. Denied God's Word (4)
 - c. Explained Away God's Word (5)
 - d. Instituted His Big Lie. Note: Genesis 11; Romans 1:25; John 8:44; II Thessalonians 2:11; The Revelation 21:8
 - 1) God's Word is Not True (4)—Heathenism
 - 2) Sin is Not Bad(5a)--Hedonism
 - 3) Man is O.K. (5b)--Humanism
- 4. The Failure of Eve. She:
 - a. Discoursed with the Devil (2) Jude 9
 - b. Distorted the Decree (3) Proverbs 3:5,6
 - c. Deceived by the Devil (6) The Revelation 12:9; 20:10; II Corinthians 11:13-15; illustrated by Ezra 4:1-3 & Nehemiah 6:1-30
 - d. Discovered Forbidden Knowledge(6) Romans 16:19; Isaiah 14:14,15
 - e. Denied Responsibility (13)
 - f. Delivered by God (21)
- 5. The Choice of Adam. (Consider the Typology: Adam/Christ--I Corinthians 15:45 and as Head of the Body and Eve type of the Body in Ephesians 5:23,30; Type of Ephesians 5:25. He:
 - a. Reneged on His Headship (6)
 - b. Rebelled against His Head (6)
- 6. The Casting-Out from the Garden (22-24)
 - a. Saved From Eternal Sorrow (22) "live forever" contrasted w/2:17 "die." Animals have no knowledge of "good and evil." Note the wisdom of God versus the foolishness of man. We chose wrongly and would continue to so do. God is merciful.
 - b. Sentenced to a Life-long Struggle (23)

II. THE WAY OF THE CREATED (Chapters 4-50)

A. From Eden to Babel (Chapters 4-11)

- 1. The First Offspring (4: 1-15)

- a. Equal Status (1,2a)
- b. Opposite Choices (2b-5)
 - 1) Cain Chooses: (2b,3)
 - a) First (3a)
 - b) His Way (3b) Religion, after the example of his father.
 - 2) Abel Chooses God's Way (4,5) Faith, after the example of "his" Father. Note Hebrews 11:4.
- c. Predictable Responses: (4b,5)
 - 1) Abel's Offering Accepted (4b)
 - 2) Cain's Offering Rejected (5)
- d. Tragic Reaction (6 - 15)
 - 1) The Anger of Cain (6)
 - 2) The Mercy of God (7)
 - 3) The Choice of Vengeance (8 - 10)
 - a) The Slaying of Abel (8)
 - b) The Denial of Guilt (9, 10)
 - c) The Judgment of God (11 -15)
 - 1)) Cursed in the Earth (11, 12)
 - 2)) Marked in Mercy (13 - 15)
- 2. The First Civilization (16-24)
 - a. The First City (17)
 - b. The First Polygamist (19)
 - c. The First Cattle Baron (20)
 - d. The First Music Master (21)
 - e. The First Artificer (22)
 - f. The First to Pervert the Truth (23, 24)
- 3. The First World-wide Catastrophe (Chapters 5-8)
- 4. The First Civilization of the New Order (Chapters 9, 10)
- 5. The First Organized Rebellion (11:1-9)
- B. From Babel to Egypt (11:10 - 50:26)
 - 1. Abraham (11:10 - 25:11)
 - a. His Call (12:1-3) Note 11:10-32) A Conditional Promise.
 - b. His Trek (12:4 - 13:4)
 - 1) To Canaan (12:4 - 9) Incomplete Obedience: He took Lot with him.
 - 2) To Egypt (12:10 - 20) Incomplete Obedience: He left God's Place.
 - 3) Return to Canaan (13:11-4)
 - c. His First Consequence of Incomplete Obedience (13:5-9)
 - 1) His Tranquility Disturbed (7a)
 - 2) His Testimony Compromised (7b)
 - 3) His Tenure in Canaan Threatened (9)
 - d. His Covenant Relationship Initiated (12:1-4; 13: 14-18)
 - e. His Conquest in Warfare (Chapter 14)
 - 1) The Conflict of Kings (1-10)
 - 2) The Capture of Lot (11,12)
 - 3) The Conquer of Abraham (13-16)
 - 4) The Coming of the Rescued (17-24)
 - a) King of Sodom (17,21-24)
 - b) Melchisedec (18-20) Note Psalm 110:4
 - f. His Covenant Relationship Established (Chapter 15). Through:
 - 1) God's Word (5; 18-21)

- 2) God's Demonstration (9-17). The fulfilling of His promise will be:
 - a) Orderly (10) God's order, not Abram's.
 - b) Timely (13) By God's Timetable.
 - c) Powerful (17) Impossible with men; but God is able.
 - 1)) Heifer--unfruitful (late in child bearing)
 - 2)) Goat—unappealing
 - 3)) Ram--unable to mate with either
- 3) Abraham's Faith (6)
- g. His Second Consequence of Incomplete Obedience (Chapter 16)
 - 1) Sarai's Scheme (1-9)
 - a) Blamed God (2a)
 - b) Plotted Revenge (2b)
 - c) Blamed Abram (5)
 - d) Obtained the Mastery over Hagar (6-9)
 - 2) Abram's Weakness (2,4,6)
 - a) Listened to Sarai (2.9)
 - 1)) Bought her Plan (2)
 - 2)) Ignored her Insolence (6)
 - b) Ran Ahead of God (6)
 - 3) Hagar's Turmoil (3-16)
 - a) Excited over Her Marriage (3)
 - b) Antagonistic toward Sarai (4)
 - c) Forced out by Sarai (6)
 - d) Rescued by God (7-16)
 - 1)) Found (7)
 - 2)) Instructed (9)
 - 3)) Promised (10)
 - 4)) Given Offspring (15)
- h. His Covenant Relationship Expanded (Chapter 17)
 - 1) Names Changed (5,15)
 - a) Abram (High Father) to Abraham (Father of Many Nations) (5)
 - b) Sarai to Sarah (Princess) (15)
 - 2) Descendants Increased (4-6)
 - 3) Circumcision Instituted (9-14)
 - 4) Isaac Promised by Name (19)
 - 5) Ishmael Rejected as heir, but blessed (18,20-27)
- i. His Heavenly Visitors (Chapters 18,19)
 - 1) Surprise Company (1,2)
 - 2) Gracious Hospitality (3-8)
 - 3) Meaningful Inquiry (9)
 - 4) Incredible Promise (10,11)
 - 5) Discourteous Reaction (6,12,15)
 - a) From One Inconvenienced (6) She had lost her life of ease
 - b) From One Unbelieving (12) She had given up hope
 - c) From One In Denial (15) She had not discerned Who had come to visit
 - 6) Abrupt Departure (16-33)
 - a) Abraham Accompanies Them Part-way (16)
 - b) Abraham Made Privy to God's Plan (17-21)
 - c) Abraham Detains The Lord (22-32)
 - 1)) He Stood in God's Way (22b)

- 2)) He Supplicated for His Family (23-32)
- 7) Arrival in Sodom (19-25)
 - a) Met by Lot (1-3)
 - 1)) The Position of Lot (1)
 - 2)) The Plea of Lot (2)
 - 3)) The Pretense of Lot (3)
 - 4)) The Protection of Lot (4-9)
 - a)) The Approach of the Sodomites (4-8)
 - b)) The Assault of the Sodomites (9)
 - 5)) The Protection of the Visitors (10-23)
 - a)) The Snatching of Lot (10)
 - b)) The Smiting of the Sodomites (11)
 - c)) The Sending Forth of Lot's family (12-16)
 - 1))) The Unbelieving Children (12-14)
 - 2))) The Unwilling Parents (15-23)
 - a))) To Leave the City (15,16) Note v. 26
 - b))) To Leave the Plain (17-23,29,30)
 - 6)) The Precipitation upon Sodom and Gomorrah (24,25)
 - j. His View of Sodom's Destruction (24,25-28)
 - 1) A Mighty Champion (24)
 - 2) A Might Conquest (25)
 - 3) A Mighty Conflagration (28)
 - k. His Nephew's Downward Trek (11:31-19:38)
 - 1) His Uninvited Company (11:31)
 - 2) His Ungrateful Attitude (13:5-7)
 - a) Blessed Because of Abram (5)
 - b) A Blight on the Testimony of Abram (7b)
 - 3) His Unspiritual Choices (13:10 - 19:1-38)
 - a) The Low Plains (13:10,11)
 - b) The Loathed Cities (13:12a)
 - c) The Look Toward Sodom (13:12b)
 - d) The Loss in Sodom (14:14)
 - e) The Loss of Sodom (19:1-38) He lost:
 - 1)) His Position (1)
 - 2)) His Married Daughters (14)
 - 3)) His Sense of Security (19)
 - 4)) His Wife (26)
 - 5)) His Lifestyle (30)
 - 6)) His Honor (31-36)
 - 7)) His Heritage (38)
 - l. His Lapse at Gerar (Chapter 20)
 - m. His Son of Promise (Chapter 21-24)
 - 1) Born (21:2)
 - 2) Circumcised (21:4)
 - 3) Weaned (21:8)
 - 4) Offered Up (Chapter 22) The Picture of Calvary:
 - a) The People (3)
 - 1)) The Father (3a)
 - 2)) The Son (3c)
 - 3)) Two Young Men (3b)
 - b) The Place (2,3)
 - c) The Prospect (4,5)

- 1)) The Victory of Anticipation (4a) Three Days
- 2)) The View of Realization (4b) Calvary
- 3)) The Vision of Expectation (5) Resurrection
- d) The Provisions (6)
 - 1)) The Wood
 - 2)) The Weapon
 - 3)) The Walk
- e) The Performance (7-13)
 - 1)) The Prophetic Question (7)
 - 2)) The Provisional Answer (8)
 - 3)) The Propitiatory Picture (6-14)
 - a)) The Sin Burden Imputed Pictorially (6)
 - b)) The Lamb Mentioned Prophetically (8)
 - c)) The Sacrifice Perfected Vicariously (9-13)
- 5) Married (Chapter 24). The Servant:
 - a) Sent to Find The Bride(1-9)
 - b) Seeks the One Chosen of God (10-33)
 - c) Supplicates the One Sought (34-52)
 - d) Seals the Choice(53)
 - 1)) Foretaste of Grace (22,47)
 - 2)) Finality of Grace (53) Silver/redemption; Gold/Deity; Raiment/Righteousness
 - e) Starts Her on Her Journey (54-63)
 - f) Suddenly United with Isaac (64-67)
- n. Finds a New Bride (23; 25:1-4)
 - 1) Sarah Dies(23:1-20)
 - a) Her Death Mourned (1,2)
 - b) Her Burial Site Negotiated (3-20)
 - 2) Keturah Wedded (25:1-4)
 - a) The Lineage (2-4)
 - b) The Heritage (5,6)
 - 1)) Sarah's Son Made Sole Heir (5)
 - 2)) Keturah's Sons Ignored
 - 3)) Concubine's Sons: (6)
 - a)) Endowed (6a)
 - b)) Sent Away (6b)
 - 4)) Hagar's Son Promised Continuance (12-18) Note 21:13
- 2. Isaac, Esau and Jacob (25:19 - 35:29)
 - a. Isaac's Low Level Life (25:19 - 26:35; 27:8, 43)
 - 1) The Problem Conception for Rebekah (25:21-23)
 - 2) The Pronouncement of Covenant Inclusion (26:1-6)
 - 3) The Duplication of Abraham's Error (26:6-16)
 - 4) The Conflict Over Family Wells (26:17-33)
 - 5) Their Unharmonious Marriage (27:8,43,46)
 - b. Jacob and Esau's Prominence (25:24 - 35:29)
 - 1) Jacob's Character Revealed at Birth (25:24,26)
 - 2) Jacob's Cunning Triumphs Esau (25:27-34) Esau knew how to stalk and rob an animal of his birthright; Jacob, his brother. Privileges of Birthright:
 - a) Priestly Intercessor
 - b) Satan Bruiser--note Gen. 3:15
 - c) Earth Blessor--Gen 12:3
 - 3) Esau Reveals His Carnality (25:27-34; 26:34,35)

- a) Sells the Spiritual for the Fleshly (25:27-34)
- b) Chooses the Heathen over His Heritage (26:34,35)
- 4) Jacob Deceives Isaac; Robs Esau (Chapter 27) (Note 25:26a)
 - a) Pretends to be What He is Not (15,16) An outdoorsman (note 25:27)
 - b) Professes to be Who He is Not (24)
 - c) Procures That to Which He Has No Right (28,29)
- 5) Esau:
 - a) Cries for a Blessing (27:38)
 - b) Vows Revenge (27:41)
- 6) Jacob Flees to Haran (Chapter 28)
 - a) Sent by Isaac to the Land of His Mother (Chapter 28)
 - b) Meets God in Luz (10-19a)
 - c) Vows to God in Bethel (19b-22)
- 7) Jacob Hired by Laban; Marries Rachel (Chapters 29 - 31:10)
 - a) Works Seven Years for Rachel, but Gets Leah (29:1-29)
 - b) Fulfills A Week for Rachel (29:28; 30:25-34)
 - c) Works Another Seven Years for Rachel (29:30)
 - d) Agrees to Work for New Wages (30:25-34)
- 8) Jacob Generates the Twelve Tribal Heads (29:32 - 30:24; 35:16-18)
 - a) Leah: Reuben (29:32), Simeon (29:33), Levi (29:34), Judah (29:35)
 - b) Rachel through Bilhah: Dan (30:6), Naphtali (30:8)
 - c) Leah through Zilpah: Gad (30:11), Asher (30:13)

man-drake (m²n⁴dr³k²) *n.* **1.a.** A southern European plant (*Mandragora officinarum*) having greenish-yellow flowers and a branched root. This plant was once believed to have magical powers because its root resembles the human body. **b.** The root of this plant, which contains the poisonous alkaloid hyoscyamine. Also called mandragora. **2.** See **May apple**.

May apple *n.* **1.** A rhizomatous plant (*Podophyllum peltatum*) of eastern North America, having a single, nodding white flower and oval yellow fruit. Although the pulp of the ripe fruit is edible, the roots, leaves, and seeds of the plant are poisonous. **2.** The fruit of this plant. Also called mandrake.

- d) Leah: Issachar (30:18): Zebulun (30:20)
- e) Rachel: Joseph (30:24): Benjamin (35:16-18)
- 9) Jacob Leaves Haran (31:1 - 35:20)
 - a) Departs Under Duress (Chapter 31)
 - 1)) Conversation Overheard (1)
 - 2)) Countenance Beheld (2) Explanation: vs. 4 -13
 - 3)) Command Received (3)
 - 4)) Concurrence of the Family (14 -16)
 - 5)) Canaan Land Express (17, 18, 21)
 - b) Detected by Laban (19-55)
 - 1)) The Family Pursued (19,20, 23)
 - 2)) Hurt Prevented (24 -43)
 - 3)) A Heap of Stones Piled Up (44-55)
 - c) Disturbed by Esau (Chapter 32)
 - 1)) Met by Angels (1,2)
 - 2)) Messengers Sent to Esau (3-23)
 - 3)) Matched-Up with God (24-32)
 - 4)) Met by Esau (33:1-16)
 - d) Disgraced in Shechem (33:18 - 34:31)
 - 1)) Dinah Defiled (1,2)
 - 2)) Hamor Deceived (3-24)

- 3)) Shechem Destroyed (25-31)
- 10) Jacob Returns to Bethel (Chapters 35)
 - a) The Abrahamic Covenant Confirmed (1-15)
 - b) The Birth of a Child (16-18)
 - c) The Death of His Companion (18,19)
- 11) Jacob's Family Rehearsed (35:22-26; Chapters 36, 37:1,2a)
 - a) Reuben's Sin (35:22)
 - b) Isaac's Death (35:27-29)
 - c) Esau's Genealogy (Chapter 36)
 - d) Jacob Arrives in Canaan (37:1,2a)
- 3. Joseph and His Brethren (Chapters 37:2b - 50)
 - a. Joseph's Dreams (37:2b-11)
 - 1) The Sheaves (7)
 - 2) The Sun, Moon and Stars (9)
 - b. Joseph Conspired Against (37:11-36)
 - 1) The Plan to Slay Him (20-26)
 - 2) The Price to Sell Him (27-30)
 - 3) The Plot to Suggest His Death (31-35)
 (Intercalation of the story of Judah, Chapter 38)
 - c. Joseph in Egypt (Chapter 39-50)
 - 1) In Potiphar's House (Chapter 39:1-19)
 - a) Accepted (1-10)
 - b) Accused (11-19)
 - 2) In Prison (Chapter 39:20-41:13)
 - a) In Favor with the Guard (39:20-23)
 - b) Favor to the Butler (40:1-23)
 - c) A Favor to Pharaoh (41:1-57)
 - 1)) Explains Pharaoh's Dream (1-37)
 - 2)) Exalted by Pharaoh (38-53)
 - 3)) Executes a Marvelous Plan (54-57)
 - 3) In Preservation (Chapter 42 - 50)
 - a) Receives His Brethren (Chapter 42 - 44)
 - b) Revealed to His Brethren (Chapter 45)
 - c) Reunited with His Father (Chapter 46)
 - 4) Profiting (Chapter 47)
 - 5) Prophecy (Chapter 48, 49:1-32)
 - 6) Passing On (Chapter 49:33 - 50:1-26)
 - a) Buries His Dad (49:33-50:14)
 - b) Buries the Hatchet (50:15-21)
 - c) Buried in Egypt (50:22-26)