

Contents

1	The Creation — <i>March 26–April 1</i> —————	6
2	The Fall — <i>April 2–8</i> —————	14
3	Cain and His Legacy — <i>April 9–15</i> —————	22
4	The Flood — <i>April 16–22</i> —————	30
5	All Nations and Babel — <i>April 23–29</i> —————	38
6	The Roots of Abraham — <i>April 30–May 6</i> —————	46
7	The Covenant With Abraham — <i>May 7–13</i> —————	56
8	The Promise — <i>May 14–20</i> —————	64
9	Jacob the Supplanter — <i>May 21–27</i> —————	72
10	Jacob-Israel — <i>May 28–June 3</i> —————	80
11	Joseph, Master of Dreams — <i>June 4–10</i> —————	88
12	Joseph, Prince of Egypt — <i>June 11–17</i> —————	96
13	Israel in Egypt — <i>June 18–24</i> —————	104

Editorial Office 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904
Come visit us at our website: <http://www.absg.adventist.org>.

Principal Contributor
Jacques B. Doukhan

Editor
Clifford R. Goldstein

Associate Editor
Soraya Homayouni

Publication Manager
Lea Alexander Greve

Editorial Assistant
Sharon Thomas-Crews

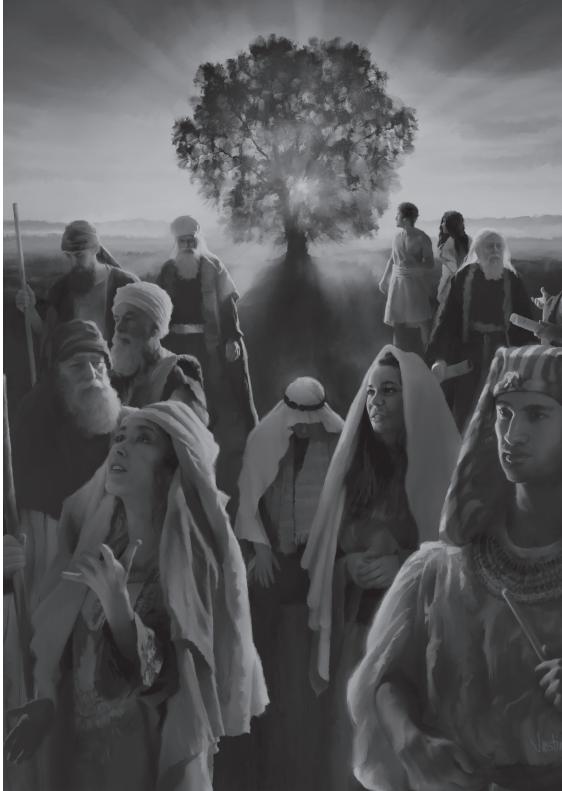
Pacific Press® Coordinator
Tricia Wegh

Art Director and Illustrator
Lars Justinen

Design
Justinen Creative Group

© 2022 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®. All rights reserved. No part of the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* may be edited, altered, modified, adapted, translated, re-produced, or published by any person or entity without prior written authorization from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®. The division offices of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists® are authorized to arrange for translation of the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, under specific guidelines. Copyright of such translations and their publication shall remain with the General Conference. “Seventh-day Adventist,” “Adventist,” and the flame logo are registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists® and may not be used without prior authorization from the General Conference.

The Book of the Beginning



Genesis is about Jesus: Jesus our Creator, Jesus our Sustainer, Jesus our Redeemer. Writing millennia after the Genesis text itself had been penned by Moses, and reaching back across those ages to the patriarch's very words, the apostle John reveals Jesus in the Creation account: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men" (*John 1:1–4, NKJV*).

What did John write here? "In the beginning" all things that were made, all things that once didn't exist, came into existence—by Jesus. All creation—from galaxies hurtling across the cosmos in staggering pinwheels of fire and light to the meticulous DNA woven miraculously into the cell to quantum waves—Jesus created and sustains it all. And the book of Genesis is the first story in Scripture of both this creation and the redemption of this creation. Here, in this book, is the world's only "official" account of our origins.

The English word *Genesis* is derived from the Greek *genesis*, which means "beginning," itself derived from the Hebrew *bereshit*, "in the beginning"—the first word of the book (hence, the first word of the entire Bible!). Genesis gives us the foundation, the base, upon which all the following Scriptures rest. Because it is first, and so foundational to all that comes after, Genesis is probably the most quoted or referred to book in the rest of the Scriptures.

Genesis is important because it is the book that, more than any other work, anywhere, helps us understand just who we are as human beings, a truth especially important now, in a day when we humans are deemed as nothing but accidents, chance creations of a purely materialistic universe. Or, as one physicist put it, we humans are “organized mud” (which is to some degree true, though for him the laws of nature alone organized it!). Genesis, however, reveals to us our true origin, that we were beings purposely and perfectly made in the image of God in a perfect world. Genesis also explains the Fall; that is, why our world is no longer perfect and why we as humans aren’t, as well. Genesis, however, also comforts us with God’s promise of salvation in a world that, in and of itself, offers us nothing but suffering and death.

Genesis . . . also comforts us with God’s promise of salvation in a world that, in and of itself, offers us nothing but suffering and death.

With its dramatic stories of miracles (Creation, births, the rainbow) and judgments (the Flood, Sodom and Gomorrah) witnessing to God’s holy presence, Genesis is awe inspiring. But Genesis also is a book with moving human stories of love (Jacob and Rachel), of hatred (Jacob and Esau), of birth (Isaac, Jacob, Jacob’s sons), of death (Sarah, Rachel, Jacob, Joseph), of murder (Cain, Simeon, and Levi), and forgiveness (Esau and Jacob, Joseph and his brothers). It also is an instruction book with lessons on ethics (Cain, Babel), on faith (Abraham, Jacob), and on the hope and promise of redemption (the crushing of the serpent, the Promised Land).

During this quarter, not only will we read and study the book of Genesis—but we also will enjoy its beautiful stories and learn to walk better with the Lord of Creation, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Meanwhile, the geographical movements of the book—from Eden to Babel, to the Promised Land, to Egypt, to the prospect of the Promised Land—remind us of our nomadic journeys and nurture our hope for the real Promised Land, the new heaven and the new earth. As we follow the various characters across the pages of Genesis, we will discover that—regardless of how different the time, place, culture, and circumstance—often their stories are, in many ways, ours, as well.

Jacques B. Doukhan, DHL, ThD, is emeritus professor of Hebrew and Old Testament exegesis at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Andrews University.

Revival & REFORMATION

Read Scripture with
the global Adventist
community.

Engage with prayer
needs from around
the world.

Discover spiritual
resources to help
you grow.

REVIVALANDREFORMATION.ORG

Help us reach the
66 percent
of the world's population who are
still waiting to experience the
refreshing news about Jesus.

**Your ongoing support of Mission
Offerings will help change lives.**

To ensure the mission river never runs dry,
please write in "World Mission Offering"
on your tithe envelope or visit
Giving.AdventistMission.org.



Adventist
Mission